



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Palestinian Affairs

'Text' of 'Arafat's Intifadah Anniversary Message

JN1107194989 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1726 GMT 11 Jul 89

["Text" of message addressed to Palestinian people by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat on 10 July marking the beginning of the 20th month of the intifadah (uprising); place not given—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To those against whom war is made, permission is given to fight, because they are wronged—and verily, God is most powerful for their aid; they are those who have been expelled from their homes in defiance of right for no cause except that they say: Our Lord is God. [Koranic verses]

O masses of the glorious popular intifadah; O heroes of the sacred stones; O you courageous male and female strugglers within the popular committees, mass frameworks, and courageous strike teams; O you heroes holding out in the camps of steadfastness and pride inside and outside the homeland; O you sons of our great Palestinian people in the homeland and in the diaspora.

With the beginning of the 20th month in the march of your victorious intifadah, a new chapter in the epic of the audacious resistance you are waging is being opened; the edifice of the structure built by the sacrifices made by the martyrs, the wounded, and the prisoners is elevated; and the accomplishments that have been accumulated and are being accumulated on a daily basis are being consecrated to forge the new Palestinian era, the era of the Palestinian stone, the era of Palestinian steadfastness, and the era of Palestinian sacrifices. We are approaching the hour of victory. We are approaching the hour of victory, the hour of victory. O brothers and beloved ones, the advantages and capabilities of this intifadah as the most prominent and important mass revolution of its kind are being confirmed, not only in the history of our people, but also in the entire contemporary history.

Nowadays, this intifadah is proceeding with firmness, strength, confidence, and faith, heading toward the objective displaying this steel will which displays neither weakness, hesitation, nor leniency in the face of the savagery of the occupiers. Nay, this intifadah has continued and continues to force its way firmly toward the realization of freedom and independence.

O you sons of our struggling Palestinian people; O brothers and beloved ones everywhere inside and outside our occupied lands: During the past few weeks, the fascist occupation was flagrantly exposing the depth of the crisis created within its structure by the intifadah. In their confrontation of our people's masses, which have continued to forge chapters of the resistance epic displaying legendary courage and accurate planning and

organization, the occupation authorities looked confused and incapable of doing anything other than going to extremes in their use of further savage repression, whose use has been proven futile, useless, and failing according to the admission of the leaders of the military establishment, as you know, O brothers and beloved. These leaders admitted that this repression is incapable of curbing the sweeping tide of the intifadah, which will bring, along with the steadfastness of our people, their nobility of descent, and their faith, the dawn leading to the inevitable and unmistakable victory.

O beloved brothers, O kinfolk and beloved ones, children, women, and men: The fascist occupiers have launched a new phase in their war against the masses of the state of Palestine. Thus, they have launched the ugliest campaigns of siege and starvation through the imposition of curfews, the closure of areas, and also through attempts to impose racist identity cards on our workers, particularly those of the proud Gaza Strip. Besides, they have expanded the collective arrest campaigns. They imprisoned hundreds of the sons of our people alongside thousands of prisoners previously jailed in the occupation prisons. Furthermore, they have continued to pursue the deportation policy of our cadres and leaders and continued to pursue the house-demolition policy. They also continued to display an unmistakable escalation of the killing policy. They ordered their troops to expand the campaign of pursuit and terrorism targeting the men, women, children, and youth of our people in a bid to terrorize you, to terrorize this people, overlooking the fact that giants live in these lands.

On the other hand, they let loose the herds of settlers to allow them to attack our masses in their cities, villages, and camps. They have sent their planes, battleships, and guns to shell the camps of the steadfast masses of our people in southern Lebanon and also to shell Lebanese villages and cities.

These fascist and racist Zionists think that they can extinguish the torch of the revolution and the flame of the intifadah. However, their attempts will be useless, their attempts will be useless, their attempts will be useless. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Fain would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will not allow but that His light should be perfected, even though the unbelievers may detest it. [Koranic verse]

O beloved ones, O kinfolk, O all of my kinfolk: This escalation, O you forgers of the blessed intifadah, has reflected the confusion of the Israeli rulers and their impotence in the face of the daily accomplishments being scored by our people's cause, thanks to the resistance being displayed by the intifadah masses, our people's legendary steadfastness, their firmness, and also thanks to the results being brought about by the integration achieved between the masses' movement and the revolutionary bases, not to mention the alert and positive political moves being effected on all levels and

fronts, thus achieving gains and support for our people's inalienable rights, including our right to repatriation and self-determination and to establish our independent state with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

These rights will be realized, whether or not this is to the liking of the Zionists. This is the will of God, the will of the masses, and the will of the Palestinian people.

The most prominent feature of this impotence and confusion within the ranks of the fascist Zionist occupiers, O brothers and beloved ones, especially after the Israeli Government's failure to peddle its election plan in the occupied territories worldwide, was the recent resignations and the reshuffling of posts in the Israeli military establishment and the political echelons, which you are closely following and hearing about. This impotence and failure was unmistakable evidence of the deep effect of the intifadah and its deeply rooted status as a firmly established reality and fact. The fascists resorted, as has been their custom, to extremism, to the adoption of extremist political programs, to the tightening of the campaigns of repression and terrorism, and also to the perpetration of further crimes against our children, women, and masses. However, all of these crimes have been crushed, with God's help, against the rock of the valiant resistance, deep faith, firm unity, and forceful solidarity being demonstrated by our masses in the villages, camps, and cities; at factories, farms, and institutions.

O masses of our great people in the homeland and the diaspora. O kinfolk, O beloved ones, O children, women, and men of my homeland. The Palestinian bird has continued to fly high proceeding toward the space of freedom with the two wings of the valiant and blessed intifadah and of the legendary and splendid steadfastness, consecrating the sacred unity of our people inside and outside the homeland. Thus, our people's cause gained further support, backing, and sustainment through what was announced by Europe during the recent EC summit. The EC summitters expressed support for the Palestinian peace initiative, exposed the Israeli election plan, and said that this plan must be linked to our people's right to self-determination, including the meanings and rights entailed in this right. Besides, they affirmed the basic and vital role of the PLO in any endeavor seeking the realization of a just and real peace in the region. Furthermore, the UN Security Council condemned the crime of deporting a new batch of our people's sons and cadres from their homeland. Moreover, we have witnessed an intensification of the international campaigns condemning the Israeli stultification war targeting our students being waged against them through the occupation authorities' closure of universities, institutes, schools, and kindergartens; through attacking hospitals; and also through its war against Palestinian trade unions and institutions.

Besides, we do not forget the stands of our friends within the Eastern bloc states that affirm the support of these friends for our people and our just cause. At the same

time, the friends of our people in the Islamic, African, and nonaligned states have continued to provide their backing and support for our people and revolution and also for our objectives.

The recognition of friendly Greece as the first EEC member state to recognize our Palestinian state followed our positive and successful France visit and our talks with the EEC member states to confirm the strength and firmness of this Palestinian right.

O masses of the sacred intifadah, O kinfolk, my beloved ones: This momentum, which confirms the effectiveness and strength of the intifadah, the capabilities of our people, and the soundness and credibility of our political program approved by your Palestine National Council, enhances our persistent struggle, shortens the road to victory, and provides us with an added strength in the confrontation on all levels of struggle throughout the world and inside our occupied territories, asserting the eternal fact stating that the Palestinian figure is the hard and basic figure in the Middle East equation and that there can be no peace, stability, security, or solutions except through realizing the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and also through raising the Palestinian flag over holy Jerusalem, over the walls, the minarets, and churches of holy Jerusalem, the capital of our youthful independent state.

O people of the sacred intifadah; O heroes of the Unified National Leadership, the popular committees, and strike forces; O strugglers of the mass organizations, institutions, higher councils, associations, youths, students, women, workers, farmers, merchants, academicians, civil servants, and vocationalists; O women of my country, children of my homeland, and steadfast brave and strong men of Palestine in every city, village, and camp; O valiant knights in prisons and detention camps who are embracing pride and dignity; O wounded heroes, who triumph over their wounds: Glory and victory are yours as you continue, through your blood, sacrifice, and courage, to formulate the most outstanding epics of resistance in our contemporary age. You have pride and might as you knock on the doors of freedom and independence. Greetings to you, as you plant our banner and flag on the soil of Palestine. You have our love as you build the foundations of the state of Palestine over the beloved homeland, the first Qiblah and the third holiest shrines, the birthplace of Jesus, may peace be upon him, and the place to which Prophet Muhammad, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, made his night journey. You have the future as you make the rhythm of the dazzling victory in Palestine, the land of peace—the peace of the strong and brave, not that of capitulators and defeatists.

O masses of the sacred intifadah; O masses of our people in all areas of struggle and confrontation: Today, we enter the 20th month of the march of our blessed intifadah armed with greater confidence, increasing belief, and firmer determination. We are moving steadily

toward our goals, while the Fascist occupiers are shaking and retreating. Let us in the forthcoming period consolidate the unity of our ranks behind the Unified National Leadership, no matter how different our views are and regardless of the factions we are affiliated to. This is the greatness of Palestinian democracy. Unity is our way to victory, and cohesion is our way to conquer the enemy. Let us entrench the revolutionary discipline that characterized the movement of our masses and that we consider as the cornerstone of the revolutionary and mass action. Let us continue to promote the quantitative and qualitative structure of the popular committees. Let us continue to support the specialized committees in all sites. Let us mobilize the capabilities of every Palestinian citizen through our patience. Let us upgrade the work of the welfare councils, getting people to work in every position to secure the daily needs of the citizens. As the intifadah continues, people will have sacred needs. We, therefore, should upgrade the work of the welfare councils in all sites to solve the daily problems of the citizens. I once again tell my beloved brave men in all strike forces that we need distinguished, qualitative, and strong strikes to confront the organized Israeli terrorism and oppression. Let us confront their crimes by further steadfastness and persistence. Let us confront the campaigns of their fascist army—which is heavily armed with all sorts of modern U.S. weapons—with marches, sit-ins, and demonstrations by our masses, which are armed with their belief, awareness, unity, flags, sacred stones, and innovative methods. There will be no retreat or bargains; rather, we will move strongly, steadily, and faithfully on the road to Palestine, the road to right, pride, might, and victory. Let our motto always be: "Intifadah until the state, and steadfastness until victory." The dawn is coming, the victory is coming, and the state is within a stone's throw. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: We will, without doubt, help our apostles and those who believe both in this world's life and on the day when witnesses will stand forth. [Koranic verse] [passage indistinct] It is a revolution until victory.

PLO Statement on 'Peaceful Initiative'

JN1107200989 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1647 GMT 11 Jul 89

["Statement Issued by the PLO" in Tunis—date not given]

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held expanded meetings with the Palestinian leadership from 7 to 9 July 1989 in which it considered the development of the Palestinian national struggle and its impact on the Arab and international levels. The intifadah [uprising] and the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory have been the focal point of [words indistinct]. The leadership voiced its great pride in our people's heroic steadfastness on their national soil and the epics of sacrifices that they are making every day for the sake of their freedom and independence. The Israeli machine of repression has not

been able to break the will of our people or force them to retreat and [words indistinct] despite the recent escalation of oppressive measures.

The Israeli occupation authorities have revealed their new plans to liquidate the intifadah by increasing the operations of killing, expulsion, and deportation. In this connection, the occupation authorities revealed their intention to liquidate what they call the intifadah generals; that is, the intifadah field commanders and cadres. The authorities have recently deported eight strugglers and have stepped up their operations of killing and arrests, unleashing hordes of settlers to attack villages, towns, and camps, women and children.

This policy not only indicts the Israeli rulers but exposes their fascist nature and their hostility to [words indistinct]. It also places [words indistinct] responsibility on the U.S. Administration, which pretends to defend human rights everywhere, except those of the Palestinians, while covering for the Israeli rulers their crimes and terrorism and repeatedly hindering the UN Security Council resolutions condemning the Israeli crimes. How can the U.S. Administration reconcile its contradictory stands on human rights?

We are aware that the aim of this Israeli policy and the U.S. connivance is to strike at the intifadah and to promote the plan of Shamir and his government rejected by our people—a plan which was exposed by the recent Likud Central Committee. The Likud presented it in its real ugly form when it reiterated the plan's rejection of the Palestinian people's right of self-determination, of the Palestinian state, of any halt to building settlements, and of any discussions on Jerusalem. Thus, the Likud has foiled all U.S. attempts to beautify this plan.

The question here is directed at the U.S. Administration: Is this administration not convinced that the Israeli Government's policy and intransigence cannot be a basis for the Middle East peace process? Will this not prompt it to adopt a new basis for a settlement, based on Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including Arab Jerusalem, thus enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their right of self-determination with the aim of establishing their independent state in order to provide peace and security for all the states in the region and pave the way for the international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all the parties concerned with the dispute in the region, including the PLO? Do not these principles, which form the essence of the Palestinian peace initiative, constitute a good basis for beginning the peace process?

Can the reference by the U.S. State Department yesterday to endeavors toward convening the international conference be the beginning of new thinking by the U.S. Administration? We hope so.

The international community, represented by all the international powers and blocs—including the USSR, the PRC, the other socialist countries, the nonaligned states, the Islamic states, the African states, the EC states, Japan, Canada, and other states—now that the Shamir plan has fallen, continues to consider the Palestinian peace initiative to be the actual basis for the peace process in the Middle East. The Madrid declaration of the EC summit included positive, advanced stands on the [words indistinct] and the Middle East peace process which have been appreciated and welcomed by the Palestinian leadership, reflecting the EC states' understanding of the Palestinian position and the Palestinian peace initiative.

Similarly, the Bucharest declaration of the Warsaw Pact countries demonstrated a firm support for the Palestinian people's right of self-determination and for the independent Palestinian state with emphasis on the International Middle East peace conference in the presence of the PLO on an equal footing with other parties to the dispute in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This declaration supported the Palestinian stand and enhanced our determination to adhere to the Palestinian peace initiative.

The recent Casablanca resolutions' adoption of the Palestinian peaceful initiative has turned this strategic initiative into an Arab Palestinian initiative and promoted the credibility of the Palestinian and Arab move toward peace. This creates big responsibilities for the Arab side and imposes a move in the international and local arenas to implement the peaceful initiative. This prompts us to call for expediting the formation of the Arab committee decided by the summit to embark on the move and contact the international forces. This also prompts us to call for increasing the quintuple coordination among the Arab parties directly involved in the international conference pursuant to the Arab summit resolution in this regard. This coordination will increase the support for the intifadah masses to continue this blessed intifadah in the face of the fascist escalation and Zionist madness against our masses, children, and women.

O masses of our Palestinian and Arab people: The protection, support for, and steadfastness of the intifadah is a basic condition to win our battle, remove the occupation from our Palestinian and Arab territory, and achieve the inalienable rights of our Palestinian people to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of the independent state. This is not only a Palestinian responsibility, but also an overall Arab responsibility on the official and popular levels.

We reiterate our call for the masses of our nation to escalate their support for and solidarity with the intifadah. We call on the popular Arab organizations to invigorate their moves in the world to condemn the Israeli crimes against the Palestinian people and to stop them.

On this occasion, we call on the Arab and Palestinian masses to participate in the general fasting day, on 19 July, declared by the occupied territory masses in the Unified Leadership Call No 42, as a form of protest, steadfastness, and challenge in the face of the occupation.

The Arab countries are called on to increase their support for the intifadah and to use their influence in the world, particularly in the pressure on the U.S. Administration to respond to the Palestinian and Arab rights, to stop the Israeli bestial repression and terrorism, end the occupation, and enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination under UN supervision.

O masses of our great people: The Palestinian leadership greets the heroic steadfastness of the occupied territory steadfastness, the steadfastness of our masses in their camps in southern Lebanon, and their dear sacrifices. The Palestinian leadership affirms its firm determination to continue the struggle alongside our brave masses and to make available all steadfastness requirements to continue and escalate the intifadah.

Greetings to the souls of our heroic martyrs, who watered with their blood the pure soil of the homeland. Greetings to the intifadah wounded, who are carrying on their bodies the medals of honor and sacrifice. Greetings to the steadfast prisoners, who challenge with their firm will the darkness of prisons and brutality of the criminal jailers. Greetings to all mothers and sisters. Greetings to all fathers and sons. Greetings to the students, workers, and farmers. Greetings to the merchants, craftsmen, and academicians. Greetings to all the sons of our steadfast people. We pledge to continue the struggle together until victory is achieved, God willing.

[Signed] The Palestine Liberation Organization

Libya's Jallud Reportedly Urges PNSF Restraint
JN1107165889 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
9 Jul 89 pp 3, 20

[Text] Damascus—AL-ITTIHAD—Informed Palestinian sources have disclosed that last week's visit to Damascus by Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council, aimed at finding ways for a renewed Libyan political role on the Palestinian and Lebanese scenes. The sources told AL-ITTIHAD that Jallud held extensive talks with the leaders of the Palestinian factions comprising the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] in the presence of Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam. Jallud also held meetings with the parties and organizations comprising the Lebanese National Front. It was agreed that the leaders of the PNSF will visit Libya 18-25 July to work out with Libyan President Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi a final formula of what has been agreed upon in Damascus.

The sources said the Libyan official asked the PNSF to adopt moderate stands toward events while affirming its commitment to political constants. He also asked the

PNSF to open up to the factions under the PLO, especially the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and to hold dialogues with these factions with a view to reaching common political ground.

Jallud also spoke about the need for avoiding extremist political stances and adopting a realistic political vision. At the end of the meetings, Jallud asked the PNSF to prepare written memorandums on three topics:

1. Ways to support the intifadah [uprising] at all levels.
2. Ways to step up armed struggle against Israel.
3. Future political inclinations of the PNSF at all levels.

The sources said that the leadership of the PNSF prepared a six-page memorandum that focused on the following points:

1. Regarding support for the intifadah, the memorandum proposes the allocation of \$7 million monthly as financial assistance to the intifadah through societies, hospitals, schools, and popular committees in the occupied territories. A committee to distribute the money shall be formed, and it shall comprise a Syrian member, a Libyan member, and two members from the PNSF leadership.
2. The allocation of \$1 million for the PNSF leadership. The sum will be used for political and media moves and for holding contacts with the Palestinian political forces.
3. Restoration of financial assistance to the PNSF factions, suspended 1.5 years ago, to the 1985 level.
4. Regarding the armed struggle, the PNSF memorandum demands the provision of its military force with advanced weapons that allow it to carry out operations inside the occupied territories. The memorandum asks for close military coordination between the PNSF and the Lebanese nationalist forces.
5. On the political context, the memorandum shows ordinary response to Jallud's ideas. It expresses readiness to change the name of the front provided that a formula on a unified political stance toward the political developments be reached between the PNSF factions and the figures that will join the new alliance.

The sources told AL-ITTIHAD that the memorandum found full support from Maj Jallud, especially regarding the assistance for the intifadah and the armed struggle. Jallud asked Khaddam to facilitate coordination between the PNSF and the Lebanese nationalist forces. Khaddam expressed Syria's readiness to do this and announced his support for the Libyan efforts to mobilize Palestinian resources in support of the intifadah and the armed struggle and to do all that he can to facilitate the moves.

Jallud stressed that he will move decisively to translate these agreed upon points into action. He said all the assistance will be provided through and in coordination with the Syrian leadership.

PNSF Statement Condemns Israeli 'Escalation'
*JN1107171689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 11 Jul 89*

[Text] The Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] affirmed that the escalation of the Zionist oppression against the Palestinians in the occupied territories is part and parcel of the mounting Israeli extremism which the recent resolutions expressed and which created more racist, extremist, and aggressive stands.

The PNSF adds in a press statement that these acts of oppression represent the practical choice of the Zionists to deal with the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people by pressure and annihilation through the use of brute force. It points out that this choice, which the Zionists are attempting to pass under the cover of their political projects, whether Rabin's or Shamir's schemes, is no different either in form or essence.

The statement indicates that the popular intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Arab territories is currently facing an unprecedented escalation of Israeli bestial oppression measures. This was manifested in the deportation of many Palestinian strugglers, increased home demolitions, destruction of property, killing of Palestinian youths, and closing off, storming, and combing of cities, towns, and camps, in addition to escalating the Zionist settlers' killing and aggression hysteria.

The statement praises the stunning steadfastness of the intifadah masses, who are taking on the successive waves of confrontation with the Zionist occupation forces by showing the great Palestinian people's spirit of struggle, their firm determination to continue the brave intifadah until defeating the occupation, and their ability to develop methods of confrontation, punishing the Zionists, and responding to their crimes.

The statement affirms that this course of events in the occupied territories reveals clearly the aggressive Zionist spirit against humanity and peace and their insistence on the use of armed force as the only method to deal with the struggle of the Palestinian people. It also strongly slaps the weak and submissive courses in the face. The statement calls on the international community to condemn Zionist bestiality and expose the policy of annihilation followed by the Zionists against the Palestinian people.

'Occupied Territory Sources' on Bus Incident
*PM1007155089 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 8 Jul 89 pp 1-2*

[Unattributed report: "Occupied Territory Sources Tell AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Bus Operation Was Individual Operation; Father Accompanied Perpetrator"]

[Excerpt] London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Occupied Jerusalem, Agencies—Reliable Palestinian sources in the occupied territory yesterday confirmed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the perpetrator of the bus operation on

the Tel-Aviv-occupied Jerusalem road the day before yesterday is called 'Abd-Rabbuh Sulayman Ghanim and comes from al-Nusayrat camp in the Gaza Strip. He worked as a produce seller in Jerusalem. The sources added that Ghanim did not belong to any political or religious organization and that he mounted the operation on his own personal initiative, perhaps to avenge his

brother who was paralyzed as a result of Israeli torture. The same sources said that the father of the man who carried out the operation was with him on the same trip in the same bus and that he is now in detention and under interrogation. The sources ruled out the possibility that the operation was planned in advance or that a particular organization was behind it. [passage omitted]

Egypt

Presidency Spokesman Denounces Mecca Explosions NC1107114889 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] A spokesman for the presidency of the Republic has stated that the Arab Republic of Egypt deeply regrets and denounces the two explosions in holy Mecca which shed the blood of some Muslims who were preparing to perform the holy rite. While denouncing this criminal act, which could not have been committed by a Muslim who respects his creed and holy places, the Arab Republic of Egypt stresses its strong support for the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in its firm confrontation of these terrorist actions around God's inviolable mosque which God has made a refuge for people.

President Husni Mubarak telephoned King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, this afternoon.

Mubarak Receives Message From 'Arafat 11 Jul NC1107151389 Cairo MENA in English 1350 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Cairo, July 11 (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak today received a message from Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat dealing with the latest Arab and international developments and the Palestinian leadership's plan of action in the coming stage.

PLO Representative in Cairo Sa'id Kamal said that he conveyed the message to Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid during a meeting earlier in the day.

Kamal had conveyed on Sunday a message to President 'Arafat from President Mubarak.

The PLO representative also said that 'Arafat will shortly visit Egypt for talks with President Husni Mubarak on the developments of the Palestinian issue.

Kamal underlined the significance of a greater Egyptian-Palestinian coordination especially on the peace making process and the holding of the proposed international conference on peace in the Middle East.

'Arafat Arrives in Cairo for 'Short Visit' NC1107212489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2106 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jul (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat arrived here this evening on a short visit to Egypt during which he will hold talks with President Husni Mubarak on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue.

The Mubarak-'Arafat talks precede President Mubarak's departure for Paris on Thursday to attend the celebrations marking the French Revolution's bicentennial. The talks also fall within the context of the continuing consultations and exchanges between the two leaders to give impetus to the Palestinian issue at both the Arab and international levels.

It is worth noting here that while in Paris President Mubarak will meet with U.S. President George Bush and several other world leaders, including the heads of the seven major industrial states and the EC to brief them on the ongoing efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East and resolve the Palestinian problem.

Paper Cites Israeli Reply to Mubarak Questions JN1107135389 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 8 Jul 89 p 8

[Text] Cairo—Informed sources at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry have told AL-ITTIHAD that 2 days ago the Egyptian Government received an initial reply from the Israeli Government to the 10 questions President Mubarak asked in the message that Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, carried with him on his recent visit to Israel.

The sources said the Israeli reply posed eight questions seeking clarification of the Egyptian stand before Israel could reply to Mubarak. These questions are:

1. What is the definite Egyptian view of the Israeli concept of security, which safeguards Israel internally and externally?
2. What is the Jordanian view of this concept, and how ready is Jordan to discuss this concept with the Israeli Government?
3. Can peace begin while Palestinian "disturbances" continue to pose a threat to Israel's internal security?
4. To what extent does Egypt recognize the Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories and their representation of the Palestinian people in the territories, especially since Egypt began to stress this trend in the recent negotiations it held with leaders of these territories?
5. Can peace begin without an agreement between Israel and the Arab countries on the subjective and procedural conditions to resolve the existing conflict?
6. What is the extent of the Egyptian recognition of the "realistic adequacy" [al-mula'amah al-waqi'iyah] of the dimensions of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the extent of its harmony with the UN resolutions?
7. If direct negotiations as envisaged by Israel, and international negotiations as envisaged by the Arab countries, are designed to resolve the existing conflict, why should direct negotiations not cover all aspects of the conflict, and why do these states not guarantee the peace agreements by themselves through a method of ideal coexistence between the Arab states and Israel?
8. The need to consider the security dimension in the occupied territories and the extent of Egypt's acceptance of a discussion of these security dimensions.

The sources said the Israeli Foreign Ministry is currently in the process of preparing other conditions on the stand toward the PLO's participation in the peace process and its concepts of the way to begin the peace process in the region. These conditions will be communicated to Egypt when they are finalized.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources said Egypt has not yet replied to the Israeli questions but is studying them.

Editorials View Likud Adoption of New Conditions

U.S. Abandonment of Plan Urged
JN1207075489 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
10 Jul 89 p 5

[Editorial: "Returning to Right..."]

[Text] The conditions Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir claimed he was compelled to append to his alleged initiative on elections for the inhabitants of the occupied territory under the pressure of the hard-line wing in the Likud bloc show contempt for the human intellect. They presume that this intellect is incapable of sound perception or is so naive as to swallow the Israeli bait very easily and believe that Shamir has done his duty and made proposals leading to peace while it is the Palestinian side that is responsible for missing this opportunity.

The result of these strange conditions, which withdrew with the right hand what was offered by the left—in addition to the ridicule from world public opinion they generated—was that Shamir has placed his only ally in an unenviable position. This ally was even forced not to use the veto, as is its custom, to block a Security Council resolution condemning the expulsion of Palestinian citizens from their land. It also found itself compelled publicly to admit that the conditions introduced into the elections proposal have made movement toward peace more difficult and raised questions on the seriousness of Shamir and his flimsy initiative.

A senior U.S. official has said that the Israeli Government's new stand may make Washington shift toward supporting the idea of an international conference for peace in the Middle East. He termed Shamir's alleged acquiescence to the extremist wing in his party a blow to the moves aimed at establishing peace in the region and an undermining of U.S. policy, which took the risk of supporting his elections plan despite all the ambiguity shrouding it.

Washington has actually continued to oppose the call for the international conference, although this has become an international demand, merely because Israel rejects this conference without any real justification. There is no doubt that the U.S. Administration has now realized that Shamir's plan, which he wanted to be an alternative to

the proposed conference, has become pointless following the farce of the four conditions introduced into it. What is now required from Washington is to reconsider its position and decide to join the international community in its support for the call to hold a peace conference as soon as possible, thus acting according to the well known saying: Returning to right is a virtue.

Likud's 'Theatrical' Viewed
JN1207092889 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic
10 Jul 89 p 7

[Editorial: "Nonsense!"]

[Text] The first stage of the power struggle in Israel has ended in a "theatrical" in the Likud Party, which is ruling within the existing coalition. In this theatrical, the Likud Central Committee approved Shamir's plan on elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in accordance with conditions that are said to be extremist.

The committee announced its approval with astonishing speed. The whole matter took no more than an hour. This fast approval conflicts with the trends that prevailed before the meeting, during which several leaders violently attacked the plan and Shamir himself in a manner that made some expect that his very leadership was in jeopardy.

The final result that was relayed to the world indicated that Shamir has "submitted" to the opposition leaders led by Sharon, that he has responded to the demands of the extremist wing, and that he had no choice but to respond to these demands to save his leadership and to maintain some stability as a negotiator or genuine party to the elections plan. However, a careful study of this situation can expose all this nonsense by simple comparisons. What has been said about about these things being imposed on Shamir is untrue because these are his own stands. His original plan did not call for the participation of the citizens of East Jerusalem in the elections, which has drawn the attention of the United States itself, which urged him to include them, taking into consideration that the final status of Jerusalem has not yet been decided and that citizens in East or Arab Jerusalem are Palestinians who have the same identity as those in the occupied territories. So, his announcement that he has submitted to the extremist opposition demands in this regard was only a confirmation that he will not include them in elections.

Regarding his commitment to continuing the establishment of settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in compliance with the party opposition, as has been said, we say that this was not a submission by him but a reconfirmation of the policy that he has adopted, declared, and implemented despite all international appeals. In fact, he has made out of this policy a "challenge stick" with which he threatens anyone who attempts to encroach on Israel's sacred rights or to convince him to relinquish some of Israel's dreams.

Moreover, his response to the opposition demands on rejecting the establishment of a Palestinian state does not mean in any way that he planned or even was planning to recognize this right. In fact, his continued rejection of the Palestinian state constitutes the major complex in the whole issue. Moreover, the difference on the two options—"political rights" and "national rights," including the right to self-determination—hides behind it a true fear that the latter formula will legally lead to the establishment of the state.

What remains is his approval of the demand to quell the intifadah [uprising] first, although there is some sort of a theoretical disregard of the fact that all evidence throughout the past 20 months proves that Shamir has actually been implementing the iron fist policy without leniency.

Shamir 'Overturned' Peace

JN1107105889 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH
in Arabic 9 Jul 89 p 6

[Editorial: "Who Overturned the Peace Wagon?"]

[Text] The operation of the overturning of the Israeli bus by driving it off the Tel Aviv highway into a deep ravine, which was carried out by a Palestinian youth to take revenge on the Israeli occupation forces for their aggression against his family and fellow citizens, was the most immediate reply to a more serious act against the peace process.

Extremist Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has responded to voices in the Likud that are even more extremist than his own, and he himself has driven the last nail into the coffin of his initiative to hold elections in the occupied territories—the initiative which was, before the fatal amendment, subject to controversy and reservations, and which has become, after the amendment, flagrant evidence of the animosity to peace harbored by Shamir and a handful of extremists in Israel. It is also flagrant evidence and of their persistent efforts to pour fuel on fire to perpetuate the occupation and establish it more firmly in the Palestinian territories.

Shamir overturned the vehicle for peace and dashed the hopes of millions of Arabs, Palestinians, and even Israelis, before the Palestinian youth overturned the vehicle carrying a handful of Israelis.

Do not blame the Palestinians, but say: No to Shamir.

Editorial Suspicious of Recent Iranian Moves

NC1207072089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0609 GMT
12 Jul 89

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jul (MENA)—The AL-AKHBAR newspaper criticizes the Iranian leaders' recent moves, which are aimed at rearming and developing the Iranian Armed

Forces. The paper notes that these moves imply hidden plans which are far from the peaceful endeavors expected in the wake of the official declaration of the cease-fire.

In today's editorial, the paper says that the Iranian stand indicates that, even after the departure of their supreme leader Khomeyni, Iranian rulers still harbor a hidden desire which may involve a new venture to achieve what they could not during the 8-year war, despite all the suffering and devastation it meant for their citizens, instead of dedicating their efforts, energies, and resources to reconstruction and development.

AL-AKHBAR adds: The world rejoiced when the Iranian leadership accepted the cease-fire resolution a year after it was adopted. Many thought that real peace would be restored to a region in which the thunderous echoes of guns and planes had never ceased for long. They thought that the warring states would dedicate their energies to reconstructing the ruins of war and resuming development plans which had been interrupted by their ferocious fighting. Regrettably enough, events proved contrary to expectations and, a year after Iran's acceptance of the UN resolution, the situation remains unchanged, with the same inherent danger.

The paper concludes that the stalemate to which the Iraq-Iran peace talks have been brought is primarily the fault of the Iranian side, whose actions reflect a lack of interest and sincerity in complying with the provisions of the UN Security Council resolution, and in easing the tension in the region. Moreover, the Iranian side still persists in its unjustifiable refusal to exchange POW's, who number hundreds of thousands.

Ahmad Salamah on Legislative, Electoral Topics

PM1007081689 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
5-11 Jul 89 p 11

[Interview with Dr Ahmad Salamah, minister of state for People's Assembly and Consultative Council Affairs, by Ashraf al-'Ashri; date, place not given]

[Text] [Al-'Ashri] In view of the Supreme Administration Court's recent ruling, which gives 78 members the right to join the People's Assembly, some jurists consider both the assembly and its laws and decisions illegitimate, including the decision to reelect the president of the republic. How true is this?

[Salamah] There is a common error that I would like to correct, as follows: The ruling did not entitle 78 members to join the assembly. In fact the ruling granted that right to 39 members—17 from the opposition parties and 22 from the National [Democratic] Party [NDP]. With regard to the 17 members, one died and the verdict on another was erroneous. So the matter is confined to 15 opposition members. What has been said—namely, that the ruling's implementation would cast a shadow of unconstitutionality over the assembly's proceedings both

before and after the ruling—is erroneous. The simplest constitutional rules cannot be violated. The president of the Republic was elected by a majority of 430 members. And the claim that the assembly is illegitimate after the court's ruling is incorrect. The authority here is the Constitution, which clearly stipulates in Article 93 that membership can only be revoked by the People's Assembly. The court ruling confirms that the courts have nothing to do with revoking membership.

[Al-'Ashri] The opposition parties accuse the government of rigging the Consultative Council elections. Their evidence is the fact that none of its candidates in all Egypt's governorates was victorious. What is your reply?

[Salamah] I expected that from the opposition. They are accustomed to talking that way. When I was asked for my predictions of the election results I said: I expect NDP candidates to win and the alliance candidates to lose. I expected to read in the opposition papers that the elections had been rigged. And that was what happened—which is strange. Before the elections they called for the individual system, but after the results emerged they began to say once again that the list system was better.

[Al-'Ashri] The mistake was admitted, the individual election system was announced, and the Consultative Council was dissolved. Do you expect the People's Assembly to be dissolved shortly?

[Salamah] The return to the individual system is not a correction of a mistake. It cannot be said that one of the electoral systems—whether individual, list, absolute, or proportional—is more democratic than the other, or that any of them violates the Constitution. The list system was not devised by the Egyptians. So we returned to the individual system. The Consultative Council was dissolved after the Supreme Constitutional Court ruled that certain articles were unconstitutional. This is why the council was dissolved, in order to reelect it using a single method. The reports about the dissolution of the People's Assembly are untrue.

[Al-'Ashri] The opposition attacks the NDP and accuses it of being absent from the political scene and of seizing power and legislative councils by force....

[Salamah] The opposition fabricated this and then believed the allegation. Now it is trying now to delude itself that other people have believed it too. Its claim about the NDP's absence from the political scene is erroneous, because its presence has been proven by the ballot box.

[Al-'Ashri] Why is the government insisting on the existence of the Consultative Council when it has no influence?

[Salamah] It is untrue that the Consultative Council has no influence. If anyone reads the Constitution he will find that the Consultative Council's role is specified in Articles 194 and 195.

[Al-'Ashri] The opposition accuses the government of passing legislation through the People's Assembly without sufficient study. How true is this?

[Salamah] It is untrue. The government did not, and will not, submit any bills to the People's Assembly before they have been studied thoroughly. An opposition group accuses the government of passing laws, which is untrue. Another group claims that the government is slow in preparing draft laws. The major reason here is the government's desire to study the laws and prepare them well.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives SWAPO's Nujoma 8 Jul
LD0807123489 Tripoli JANA in English 0840 GMT 8 Jul 89

[Text] Tripoli, al-Nasir [July] 8, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution received Sam Nujoma, the leader of the South West African People's Organisation [SWAPO].

Nujoma Departs 8 Jul
LD0807210189 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Jul 89

[Text] Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO] left Tripoli this afternoon after a visit to the Great Jamahiriya.

In a statement to JANA, Sam Nujoma pointed out the support and effective assistance given by the Great Jamhriyah to the organization. He said: We are very grateful to the brother leader of the revolution and the Libyan Arab people for all the political, moral, and material support, which helped much in liberating Namibia.

Sam Nujoma also pointed out that he informed the brothers in the Great Jamahiriya of the latest developments of the struggle for eliminating racist colonialism in Namibia.

Moroccan Minister Conveys Letter to Al-Qadhdhafi
LD0907111189 Tripoli JANA in English 0817 GMT 9 Jul 89

[Text] Tripoli, al-Nasir [July] 9, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution yesterday received Rachid Ghazouani, the Moroccan minister for planning and personal envoy of King Hassan II.

The personal envoy delivered a letter to the leader of the revolution from King Hassan II. Rachid Ghazouani arrived in Tripoli yesterday.

Morocco

King Hassan Receives U.S. Admiral Crowe 11 Jul
LD1107192789 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Excerpt] At noon, at the Royal Palace in Casablanca, His Majesty King Hassan II, accompanied by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed and His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid, received the members of the General Secretariat of the Arab Maghreb Union.

His majesty also received Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Receives Libya's Al-Humaydi
LD1007133289 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT
10 Jul 89

[Text] Casablanca, 10 Jul (MAP)—Driss Basri, Morocco's minister of interior and information, last night met with Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Revolutionary Command Council of the 1 September Revolution in the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, who is in Morocco to deliver a message from Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, to King Hassan II, and to represent the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya at the Moroccan people's celebrations of Youth Day, which this year coincides with the Moroccan king's 60th birthday.

The audience was attended by Muhammad Qasim al-Zuwayy, resident secretary [as received] of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in Morocco, and close advisers of the Moroccan minister.

Sudan

Al-Bashir Opens First Council Session
EA1107192589 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1432 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Jul (SUNA)—The National Salvation Revolutionary Council of Ministers held its first session this morning under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) and prime minister, and in the presence of the RCC. Lt Gen 'Umar briefed the Council of Ministers on the revolution's objectives and on what was expected of the executive authority by way of bringing those objectives to realization. He also referred to the political statement issued by the revolution on ways of tackling the country's problems.

Addressing the gathering, the prime minister gave an account of the economic situation in the country, the constraints affecting living standards, and the issue of security and stability in the south of the country. He

stressed that the government would concentrate on improving the efficiency of the civil service and raising the level of its effectiveness.

Mr 'Ali Muhammad Shummu, the minister of culture and information and the official spokesman of the Council of Ministers, said the council had decided to form a committee to study the administrative system and state structures; that is to say, the new shape of the ministries. He said the committee would be chaired by the interior minister, and its members would be the ministers of presidential affairs [shu'un al-ri'asah], finance, trade, and transport and communications.

The official spokesman said the council had amended its ordinance and had also accepted the suggestion of the prime minister to sign exemption of liability forms [urnik ibra al-dhimma] and to authenticate the financial status of the ministers.

Mr Shummu also declared that all the ministers had participated in today's meeting with the exception of Engineer 'Abd-al-Mun'im Khawjali, the minister of energy, who was still abroad. He said the Council of Ministers' regular meeting would be held every Sunday.

Al-Bashir Addresses Khartoum Demonstrators
NC1107183789 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Thousands of Sudanese demonstrated outside the presidential palace in Khartoum today in support of the national salvation revolution led by Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir. Lt Gen al-Bashir, head of the Revolutionary Command Council, addressed the demonstrators, who chanted slogans supporting the revolution and rejecting sectarianism and partisanship.

Demonstration Called 'Lukewarm'
AB1107180589 London BBC World Service in English
1615 GMT 11 Jul 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Sudan's new military government has been greeted with a lukewarm response to its call for a public demonstration today in support of the overthrow of the civilian government 11 days ago. From Khartoum, Alfred Taban telexed this report:

[Begin Taban recording] About 10,000 people gathered at 1000 this morning in the Martyrs Square near the Republic Palace, which used to house the dissolved Supreme Council, to show their support for the new government. Shouting "One people, one army," the demonstrators praised the new government for rescuing them from economic and political mismanagement. They also displayed slogans accusing the former government of Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi of oppression.

The new head of state and prime minister, Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, addressed the demonstrators and said he would never allow sectarianism to return to divide the people. He called for a doubling of production and said the revolution could only be protected by increasing production. He called on the demonstrators to return directly to their offices and work places. However, about a hundred demonstrators did not heed his advice. They marched to the Army Headquarters where Al-Bashir maintains his office, shouting slogans against the defunct al-Ummah Party of Al-Mahdi. Three vehicles full of well-armed security men followed slowly behind.

Al-Bashir said today's demonstration would be the last to be permitted. He said demonstrations took up valuable time for production. The demonstration was much smaller than expected. Although office workers were allowed to take time off their duties to attend the demonstration, few showed up. Whether by coincidence or design, most of the demonstrators were Muslim brothers and sisters. They were easily identified by the clothes they wore—their women cover all parts of their body leaving only the face—and by the slogans they shouted, most of which gave generous praise to God or Allah.

Rumors have it here that Al-Bashir is a Muslim brother, though he denies this. Al-Bashir's security was unprecedented today. Well-armed security forces swarmed the entire area and almost all buildings nearby had security men carrying telescopic guns on the roofs. Plain-clothes policemen were also abundant among the demonstrators. [end recording]

Al-Bashir Discusses Relations With USSR

EA0807211889 Khartoum SUNA in English 1650 GMT
8 July 89

[Text] Khartoum, 8 July (SUNA)—Sudanese-Soviet relations have been the centre of discussions today during a meeting between the chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, and the Soviet charge d'affaires. The principled Soviet stand is siding with the boosting of bilateral relations and cooperation, the Soviet charge d'affaires said today.

Al-Bashir on Arrests, Unity With Libya, Egypt

JN1207100789 Kuwait AL-ANBA in Arabic
10 Jul 89 pp 27, 30

[Interview with Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council for National Salvation, by Ahmad Hanqah in Khartoum; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Hanqah] It has been noticed that not all leaders of the political parties were arrested, and that there are many members of the previous government not included in the detention list.

[Al-Bashir] It is true that a number of party men were not arrested. There are two reasons. The first is that when the revolution started, we did not have enough manpower to arrest men of the previous government because the revolution was carried out in secret. The second reason is that we did not want to arrest just anyone, any person. We wanted to arrest those whom we felt would endanger and resist the revolution during these circumstances. Furthermore, some persons were arrested for their own safety after the revolution started so that they would not become exposed to public anger and endanger their lives. However, after we assumed power and the situation became stable, many of those whom we were searching for surrendered to the authorities after they realized that their era had ended and will not return. Some of the corrupters are still hiding, but they will not escape the reach of the government and they will not escape justice. [passage omitted]

[Hanqah] When will you bring the political detainees before the court? What charges will you bring against them?

[Al-Bashir] You have probably noticed that the Revolution Command Council [RCC] has issued a law to form courts. This law empowers the RCC or those authorized by it—the military governors and the Khartoum commissioner—to appoint committees to investigate all financial and administrative violations in all state organizations and companies during the period from May 1986 until 30 June 1989—the period in which the parties held power.

The law also stipulates the investigation of all behavior of and resolutions by the central government in the fields of finance, property, licenses, certificates, and all other fields in which there was an abuse of power.

Therefore, everyone in the government of parties who committed crimes against our people will be brought to trial as soon as these committees are formed—and these committees will be formed this week. The detainees who are not convicted of any charge will be immediately released.

We have issued directions to provide good and kind treatment to all detainees and to provide them with all their needs—whether books, magazines, newspapers, medicine, or other needs. [passage omitted]

[Hanqah] You have declared a program for peace in the south. How will you deal with this fateful issue?

[Al-Bashir] No one wants war; war is the last thing to which one will resort only if there is a need. We in the Armed Forces are the most affected by war and its aftermath, and we preach peace. [passage omitted]

Some people ask us about the previous peace initiatives. I assert that we in the RCC are not committed to any previous peace initiative. I also want to clarify that we

will neither accept any preconditions from the [Garang] movement nor will we set any conditions for the movement. What is required is that all of us bring our viewpoints and sit at the negotiating table. We in the RCC and our brothers in the movement understand each other because we speak the same language. We have fought in the jungles, and we suffer from the tribulations of war. We are the most capable of reaching a solution. [passage omitted]

[Hanqah] You have announced a plan for unity or union with Libya and Egypt. Can you clarify this?

[Al-Bashir] True. I have stated this because we in Sudan believe in Arab unity as a strategic objective, and we seriously endeavor to achieve rapprochement and solidarity among Arabs and the comprehensive Arab unity. We believe that the Gulf Cooperation Council, which I consider a major step on the path of Arab unity, has scored a tangible success. I also believe that the Arab Cooperation Council and the Arab Maghreb Union represent steps in the same direction. Therefore, we believe that Egypt, Libya, and Sudan represent the flanks for the Arab East and Arab Maghreb. We have proposed this plan in principle, and when we put the Sudanese house in order, we will make this plan a reality, God willing. [passage omitted]

Al-Bashir Interviewed on Politics, Economy

JN0707142589 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD
in Arabic 5 Jul 89 p 9

[Interview with Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council, by Taha al-Nu'man in Khartoum; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [AL-ITTIHAD] What is the political framework within which you will be working? Do you have a specific concept for administering Sudan, other than the work program that has been announced? Will you establish a political system along the lines of the Socialist Union? What will be the framework of public participation (a parliament ... people's assembly ... national council)?

[Al-Bashir] In the next period, which will be one for establishment, combating corruption, and removing obstacles, action will be taken through the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and the cabinet. There will not be elections in the common meaning of the word. Popular participation might start by forming neighborhood committees for basic administration and popular supervision in the districts. Committees will not be formed to supervise work in the field, because, according to the previous experience, this was one of the mistakes leading to the carelessness and collapse of the administration and the May regime. Work in the field will be the responsibility of the administrative leaders. We will restore the authority and prestige of civil service so that it, and not the committees, will be responsible for

supervision. Popular participation may be developed in the future through these committees being elevated to a level of city and regional council committees. It could develop into a council on the national level. Then it rate, the final concept of this participation has not yet been crystallized. Time and political and economic developments can crystallize for us the form of executive participation in the future. However, there will not be any form of parties at all.

[AL-ITTIHAD] Will this take place in isolation people? As Your Excellency knows, this nation in from the mental potential and capacity. n has great

[Al-Bashir] We came in the first place to lift the morale of the Sudanese people and give vent to their energies so as to benefit from the great material and human resources at our disposal in the interests of their growth and prosperity. We have not come to form political organizations. We have not come to rule forever. Once we feel that our people have become capable of electing their own real rulers and making sound decisions without the sectarian and party forms of the past, then we will clear the way, quit, and return to our homes. When we will

We do not want the experience of military rule followed by parties followed by military rule once again followed by hellish circle. We have wasted 33 years of gain—this independence. A great deal of growth, development Sudan's progress could have taken place in those years, and seen another country with our same circumstances. I have resources that achieved excellent success—Indonesia and Malaysia—where I attended a military course—namely received its independence in 1957, 1 year after Sudan. However, the degree of stability it enjoys has placed it among the developed countries.

[AL-ITTIHAD] Do you have a preconceived stand on liberal democracy as a framework for the exercise of basic rights and civil liberties? Or do you view the exercise of quo as an emergency situation to be maintained until the status salvation of the country is accomplished, thus ending until the a crystallization of a form of democracy befitting an envisaging concept of democracy? (Attending your)

[Al-Bashir] I would like to tell you honestly that to have faith in liberal democracy and that we did we used enthusiasm for it, endeavored to attain it, and displayed pressures during the days of the uprising laund exerted topple the Numayri regime with the aim of initiating open liberal democracy. However, the partisan practices perpetrated during and after the elections in practices believe that the democracy practiced in Sudan is made us all good for Sudan and that any attempt to restore liberal democracy will be a repetition of this experience. In the liberal years after the dissolution of parties throughout the Sixteen rule era, parties returned with the same ideas, for the May patterns. No, they proved to be worse than they were, and before the beginning of the May era. I am sure that liberal democracy will be worse than it has recently been if we attempt to revive it once again. It has recently been

[AL-ITTIHAD] Do you view all parties, large and small, and their cadres as corrupt? Or do you believe that there are nationalist parties and nationalist figures within these parties from whom you can benefit? That is, will all partisan figures be politically isolated regardless of their organizational skills and irrespective of their honesty and integrity?

[Al-Bashir] I would like to affirm again that all parties are corrupt and bad. There can be varying degrees of badness. You can say that this party is worse than or not as bad as the other. But you cannot say that this party is better than the other. To us, all party leaderships are suspect and cannot be called upon for help. However, each person who proves to be a sincere, honest, and efficient patriot without strong partisan affiliation can be called upon for help so that we can benefit from his capabilities and abilities to help save the nation.

[AL-ITTIHAD] You have decided to dissolve trade unions and associations and said that they will be allowed to operate again after the issuance of a law governing their activities. What is your concept of the role of the Sudanese trade union movement? Was their dissolution a precautionary measure? What agency will be authorized to draw up the new law governing trade unions and associations? Will these trade unions and associations have any representation in this agency or any role in formulating this law? As you know, the Sudanese trade union movement is deeply entrenched. Moreover, it played an important patriotic role before and after independence.

[Al-Bashir] Yes, the work of the trade unions in Sudan is institutionalized and deep-rooted. It reflects a significant development in Sudan's life. What blemishes this picture is that these unions, despite their development and strength, have restricted their activities to matters of demands.

We do not bear grudges against the trade union movement, because it represents the Sudanese people's bases, for which we moved to save the people. The trade unionists themselves might be convinced that our movement was for the sake of the country. The proof is that, although we dissolved the trade unions and canceled their current law, the trade unions did not move against us despite the existence of a prior agreement among the various factions of the trade union movement to stage civil disobedience right after hearing martial music.

Our concept and opinion of the trade unions is positive, not negative. The law will be redrafted. The side redrafting the law is, of course, the public prosecutor's bureau. We will explain our approach toward this law reorganizing trade unions. We hope that the new trade unions will assume responsibility with us to save the homeland. This is because under the past circumstances, every political leader wanted to take something for himself and his party without giving anything, and consequently it was natural that every trade unionist tried for the greatest

possible achievements for his base. However, during the new era we want, as leaders, to be an example for them, and we want them to be on the same level. I do not believe that a worker, an employee, or a trade unionist will ask for more privileges than the RCC, because this will be illogical. Our serving as example can convince the trade unionists to play their role in performing their duties. [passage omitted]

[AL-ITTIHAD] There are party and nonparty elements that contributed to and acquired great experience through negotiations and dealing with the popular rebellion movement under John Garang. Do you plan to benefit from these elements, and do you intend to form a committee, a ministry, or a council for peace? What is the framework through which you will work to achieve peace? When will the peace declaration, to which you have referred in previous statements, be issued? What are the contents of this declaration?

[Al-Bashir] I will answer your question on the issue of negotiations with this movement and your talk about experience by saying that we strongly believe that we are closer to the mentality of the movement's leaders than any other side. This is because we and they are field combatants. We used to fight each other in the same field, and at other times we were colleagues on the same front. So, we understand each other and are closer than others. Consequently, we are more capable of negotiating than any other side. We will not enlist support from anyone to negotiate with the movement on our behalf. Regarding the peace declaration, a committee is currently drafting it. We have actually begun contacts with some brothers to bring about a meeting between the two parties.

[AL-ITTIHAD] Sudan is now in the grip of a grinding economic crisis. What remedial measures are you contemplating, and have you received any promises of assistance?

[Al-Bashir] It was mainly the economic crisis that determined us to move. As I said earlier, it cannot be easily tackled overnight. We have only one choice: To ask brothers and friends for help if we are to secure the people's food requirements. Their response has been quick and ready. The requested food aid will be arriving in the next few days. You may have heard that a tanker with a cargo of oil left Suez and is likely to dock at Port Sudan today or tomorrow. A shipment of wheat is expected from Jeddah. Egypt is sending medicine, and the consignment was due to have arrived by air yesterday, Tuesday. We have been promised aid and assistance by many of our brothers. Such promises have been made by Libya. And the United States has also been forthcoming, notwithstanding their clear laws in this regard. They have a law that says that there can be no support for any military coup that overthrows a democratic system of government. We expect support to be extended, however. The former system of government in Sudan is not their idea of democracy.

Looking ahead, rebuilding the infrastructure and renovating major projects will receive priority attention. Next on our list of priorities will be resettlement projects followed by development.

[AL-ITTIHAD] The first foreign ambassador you met with was the American ambassador. You said that you explained to him the circumstances that had prompted you to seize power and topple the former regime. How did the American ambassador react? Did he intimate that the U.S. Administration was about to make a policy shift under the new regime? And if so, did he promise urgent assistance? Perhaps you could be specific on what American Ambassador Norman Anderson had to say during the meeting?

[Al-Bashir] I explained to him the circumstances that had prompted our move. He told me that he had been closely following developments. He showed understanding and was convinced of our reasons for acting. As I have said, he promised to seek a change in his government's attitude toward continued and increased support.

Al-Tahir Returns From Visit to Libya 8 Jul

EA0807210789 Khartoum SUNA in French 1520 GMT 8 Jul 89

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Jul (SUNA)—Brigadier al-Tijani Ahmad al-Tahir, a member of the Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation, arrived back in Khartoum today after a short visit to Libya during which he informed the Libyan authorities about the situation prevailing in the country and the reasons for the Army takeover. Brig al-Tahir told the press that the Libyan defense minister, Mr Abu-Bakr Yunis Jabir, had confirmed that his country was ready to support Sudan's efforts to solve her problems. The Libyan Jamahiriyyah also reaffirmed its support for the national salvation revolution in Sudan, Brig al-Tahir added.

Chad Situation Discussed

NC0907181389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 9 Jul 89

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Jul (MENA)—Brigadier General al-Tijani Ahmad al-Tahir, member of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council, said today that his recent visit to Libya at the head of a delegation from his country was aimed at explaining the circumstances and the reasons leading up to the revolution.

Al-Tahir emphasized that Sudan's relations with the neighboring, fraternal, and friendly countries are those of friendship and cooperation and that they are based on the principles of noninterference in the domestic affairs of any state and of respect for international charters.

Al-Tahir said that his discussions in Libya dealt with bilateral, Arab, and African issues of common interest. He pointed out that the situation in Chad was also discussed and that both sides agreed that what is happening there is an internal struggle.

RCC Spokesman Cited on YAR Ties, Support

JN0907091889 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 9 Jul 89

[Text] Colonel Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman, member of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council [RCC] for National Salvation and official RCC spokesman, has paid tribute to the developed and distinguished Yemeni-Sudanese relations.

In a telephone conversation with the newspapers AL-THAWRAH and 26 SEPTEMBER conducted yesterday, Col Sulayman said: It was not strange that the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR] was one of the first countries that hastened to support and bless the revolution. He paid tribute to our country's constant support for the fraternal Sudanese people under all circumstances. He expressed his wish that the strong fraternal ties binding the two peoples would extend to involve all aspects and domains.

RCC Members Visit Political Detainees 7 Jul

EA0807204089 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 7 Jul 89

[Text] Brigadier al-Zubayr Muhammad Salih, deputy chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and chairman of the security and operations committee, Colonel Pio Yokan, member of the council, and Brigadier Muhammad Ahmad Mustafa visited the political detainees at Cooper Prison this morning and acquainted themselves with the conditions of their confinement.

Brig al-Zubayr Muhammad Salih issued instructions for the prisoners to receive all they require. He gave them a promise that their relatives would be allowed to visit them next week. His excellency said that justice will take its natural course as soon as ministers had been named and an attorney general appointed.

Only the prisoners who were detained after the national salvation revolution were visited on this occasion.

Official Says SPLA Attacking Rural Areas

EA1107165989 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1023 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Anzara [Western Equatoria], 11 Jul (SUNA)—Some of the forces of Colonel John Garang have attacked rural areas around the town of Yambio in Equatoria Region in spite of Garang's declaration that he

had accepted the cease-fire. This was announced by Severiano Maurice, the acting commissioner of Western Equatoria, during a meeting with Staff Brigadier Dominic Kassiano, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] for National Salvation. Mr Maurice said numbers of migrants had arrived in Yambio (?fleeing) these areas because they were suffering as a result of the inability of the military units to protect them. He said the fleeing of the citizens had coincided with the start of the planting season and would affect the productivity of the coming harvest, which in turn would have a negative effect on the already poor food situation in the province.

The RCC member, Staff Brig Kassiano, replied that he had a great deal of practical experience in dealing with Garang. He said it was most probable that these forces had cast off Garang's authority, as had happened on many occasions. He said this did not mean that the Army would do nothing about such incidents: The Sudanese Army was not short of manpower, but its fighting potential had been weakened by neglect. He said the truce declared by the government had put the ball in Garang's court.

Delegation To 'Exchange Viewpoints' With Garang
EA1107115589 Khartoum SUNA in English 0940 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Juba, Sudan, 11th July (SUNA)—Member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] for National Salvation, Brig Dominic Kassiano, yesterday confirmed the revolution's determination to reach a peaceful solution to the civil war in the south.

The RCC has commenced a two-level international and regional move with regard to reaching a lasting peace based on direct and frank dialogue with the rebellion SPLM [Sudan People's Liberation Movement], indicated Brig Dominic. He said some delegations would shortly leave to neighbouring countries as Ethiopia, Kenya and Zaire in missions relating to peace.

He said the RCC had not yet received the SPLM reply regarding the revolution's declaration of amnesty and elonging [as received] the truce period. He underlined that the Ethiopian president's welcoming to Sudan's revolution had reflected a "positive step," indicating that the Sudanese delegation to Ethiopia would seek to exchange viewpoints on different issues with the SPLM leader, John Garang. Brig Dominic added that the revolution's policies for dealing with the national economic and security problems do not differ with that of Col Garang. Therefore, he said, Garang has no sufficient grounds for refusing peace negotiations.

Qatar

Foreign Ministry Deplores Mecca Explosions

JN1107164789 Manama WAKH in English 1625 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Doha, July 11 (GNA)—The State of Qatar has strongly deplored the two heinous explosions which were targeted against the Muslims pilgrims in the holy mosque (shrine) in Mecca last night. QATARI NEWS AGENCY quoted a responsible Foreign Ministry source as saying today such a criminal act which intimidated the safe pilgrims, contravenes the spirit and teachings of our Islamic religion and the sanctity of the holy mosque in Mecca.

The same source called on all the Islamic states to stand against such terrorist crimes posed to threaten safety of the Muslim pilgrims.

The source also expressed consolation of the government and the people of the State of Qatar to the Government of the sisterly Saudi Arabia and to the injured and their relatives.

Saudi Arabia

Mojahedin Leader Blames Iran for Mecca Attack

NC1107162989 Paris AFP in English 1452 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Baghdad, July 11 (AFP)—An Iranian opposition leader Tuesday accused Iran of perpetrating the bomb attacks in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, that left one dead and 16 wounded.

"The one responsible for these crimes...is the terrorist regime of (the late Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeyni," Masud Rajavi, leader of the Iraq-based People's Mojahedin, said in a communique.

"The regime has for several days paved the way for such awful crimes during the pilgrimage and has found nothing else to do than perpetrate attacks against the lives of pilgrims and innocent passers-by," he added.

President Ali Khamene'i, Iran's new spiritual leader, earlier condemned the Mecca attacks as a U.S.-Israeli plot carried out by Saudi agents.

Two explosions late Monday rocked an area near the Grand Mosque in Mecca, Islam's holiest city, leaving one dead and 16 injured, two of them seriously, according to Saudi officials.

Iran has officially boycotted the annual pilgrimage since its quota of pilgrims was drastically cut to 45,000 following 1987 disturbances in which over 400 people were killed, mainly Iranians.

King Fahd Receives YAR President

LD1007183889 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1712 GMT
10 Jul 89

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 10 Jul (SPA)—His Excellency Yemen Arab Republic President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrived this afternoon in Jeddah on a short visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

He was welcomed at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport by the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, and His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense, aviation, and the inspector-general. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Message to Al-Sabah, Mubarak on Hajj

LD1207104189 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The custodian of the two holy mosques has expressed his gratitude to His Highness the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Al Sabah, and His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, for their kind sentiments and re-affirmed to them that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will show no lenience toward whoever seeks to stir up sedition or subversion in the two holy places. He stressed unlimited concern for maintaining the security of the holy places and its rejection of all pressures and provocations from whichever side.

The custodian of the two holy mosques reassured His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Al Sabah and His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak that the general plan for pilgrimage and the pilgrims is proceeding on course according to the desired objectives, foremost of which is rendering maximum service to the pilgrims and mobilizing all energies to ensure their comfort and security.

United Arab Emirates

Government Denounces Mecca Explosions

JN1107164589 Manama WAKH in English 1613 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, July 11 (GNA)—The United Arab Emirates today denounced as a terrorist act two bomb blasts that killed one person and injured 16 in the holy city of Mecca.

Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Shaykh Hamdan Bin-Zayid said: "The UAE received the news of the two explosions which are considered as a detestable crime by which a group of murderers to breach the security and sacredness of the Moslem shrine and its pilgrims." [sentence as received]

"While it condemns this terrorist act which contradict our Islamic teachings and all human values, calls for the stiffest punishment against the perpetrators of the abominable crime to safeguard the security and safety of the pilgrims and to make them an example for any one who attempts to discredit the sanctity of the holy shrines."

Shaykh Hamdan said the UAE appeals to all Islamic countries to denounce the blasts.

Yemen Arab Republic

Statement Issued Condemning Mecca Explosions
JN1107184889 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] An official source has announced the following:

The Yemen Arab Republic [YAR] received with great pain and condemnation the news of the explosions in holy Mecca near the holy mosque, at a time when the Merciful's guests were flocking to the area. Our country,

while condemning these criminal acts, which only indicate a rooted grudge against the Islamic nation and all its entity and holy shrines, asks Islamic and world public opinion and all states, organizations, and bodies to condemn these aggressive and malicious acts, which did not consider the sanctity of the holy places nor the occasion of performing the hajj rituals, which God glorified in His holy book and which aim to [word indistinct] all Muslims who are directing their eyes and hearts to their brothers who are performing the Hajj rites. This necessitates a unified confrontation of this wantonness over Islam, the Muslims, their Islamic shrines, and religious rituals.

The YAR, while declaring its stand supporting the brothers in the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, fully backs the Kingdom in every measure it takes to protect the Merciful's guests and the holy shrines. It is confident that the security sides in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are capable of finding out the facts and punishing those who committed this ugly crime.

Information Minister Denounces Mecca Explosions
*JN1107175789 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT
11 Jul 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Jul (INA)—Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim denounced here today the sinful crime perpetrated by scoundrels last night near the holy shrine in Mecca which killed 1 pilgrim and injured 16 others in the most sacred Islamic place.

In a statement to INA, the minister said whoever perpetrated the crime reflected strong hatred toward Islam and the Muslims.

Such criminal acts in this sacred place and in these sacred days, he said, are aimed against the security and safety of the Muslims as they prepare to complete the rites of pilgrimage by moving to the holy places in Muna and 'Arafat.

The minister said this deplorable incident brings to mind the criminal acts practiced by the suspect Iranian regime during the Hajj season 2 years ago and its attempts to introduce new rites and rituals to the Hajj, departing from God's orders and the teachings of His noble prophet.

The minister stressed his strong condemnation and disapprobation of this cheap criminal act and of the reckless method that contravenes Islamic ethics and ideals.

Saddam Phones King Fahd

*JN1207105589 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT
12 Jul 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jul (INA)—President Saddam Husayn today held a telephone conversation contact with his brother, King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, congratulating him on 'the blessed 'Id al-Adha.

During the telephone conversation, President Saddam Husayn denounced the criminal act in holy Mecca and considered it to be directed not only against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia but against Muslims everywhere. He said that this deplorable act exposes the criminal and immoral nature of its perpetrators.

President Saddam Husayn stressed Iraq's solidarity with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia against anything that causes harm to it or encroaches on the values of true Islam.

Kurdistan Legislative Elections Set for 9 Sep

*JN1107140289 Baghdad INA in English 1330 GMT
11 Jul 89*

[Text] Baghdad, July 11, INA—A presidential decree issued here today fixed the 9 September next as a date for the elections of the Legislative Council of the Kurdistan autonomy region.

The Legislative Council of Kurdistan region is a legislative committee of 80 members who are elected through direct secret ballot and from which an executive council is stemmed represented by secretariats of the Kurdistan autonomy in which the secretary has the position of a minister to manage the affairs of the secretariat and he is responsible before the Legislative Council.

The new session of the council is the sixth in the series of the three-year each sessions of the council.

Three provinces representing the northern Iraqi autonomous region provinces namely Irbil, the centre of autonomy rule, al-Sulaymaniyah and Dahuk will participate in the council's elections.

Each Kurdish citizen has the right to elect twice the first of which is to elect the members of the Iraqi National Assembly and the second is to elect the Legislative Council of Kurdistan autonomy region.

Every member of the Legislative Council of Kurdistan area represents 41 thousand Kurdish citizens.

The committees of the autonomy region including the Legislative Council were formed according to the autonomy rule law which was issued in 1974 in which the Iraqi Kurdistan region was granted cultural, national, and human rights as well as the right of elections to form the legislative and executive councils of the region.

The law stated that the Legislative Council is concerned to take the legislative decisions required to develop the region and to enhance its social, cultural, constructive and economic facilities within the limit of the supreme policy of the Iraqi state.

Moreover, the Legislative Council also takes decisions related to developing culture and national traditions and characteristics of the citizens in the Kurdistan region as well as the legislative decisions concerning the semi-official offices and organizations and local factories after consulting the central offices concerned.

The council has the right to take its decisions to endorse the detailed draft plans prepared by the Executive Council in the economic and social affairs as well as the development projects, issues of education and health and working within the requirements of the general central planning of the state.

The council suggests the region's budget and endorses the final balances after reviewing them by the financial auditory office and submitting them to the legislative authority for endorsement and makes amendments on the budget of the region within the allocated months.

The Legislative Council has the right to discuss and ask members of the executive council of the Kurdistan autonomy region concerning the affairs within their specializations.

The law also stated the relieving of any member of the executive council from whom the Legislative Council withdraws the confidence. The council takes the decision of no-confidence by the majority of the members of the Legislative Council.

Ten committees are stemmed from the Legislative Council, each of which is specialized in certain duties and tasks stated by the statute and these committees are investigation on membership, reviewing complains, suggestions and petitions, the Committee of Internal and Social Affairs, the Committee of Women's Affairs, the Committee of Summer Resorts, Municipalities and Housing and the committees of financial, economic, agricultural, cooperative, educational and cultural affairs and endowments as well as the Committee of Minorities Affairs.

Paper Cited on Syria's 'Offensive in Lebanon'
*JN1107110589 Baghdad INA in English 0915 GMT
11 Jul 89*

[Text] Baghdad, July 11, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad said the Syrian regime resorts to a policy of continued offensive in Lebanon to ease the domestic popular pressure and to maintain involvement in continued external crises to avoid probability of its downfall.

A daily commentary here today said the Syrian regime suffers from a domestic isolation, deviation and corrosion and that is why this regime nervously deals with the Lebanese crisis.

It stressed that the Syrian regime was neither keen on Syria's and pan-Arab security nor on the national Syrian and Arab interests and that its practices in Lebanon clearly uncover that. This regime, which denies Lebanon security independence and national unity and employs all means of destruction and sabotage for the interest of its allies of the Zionists and its sectarian hiring militias.

The daily attributed complications facing the task of the tripartite Arab committee to the nervous Hafiz al-Asad, the U.S. pressures, the Zionist intensification of its oppression and also to the Iranian stances.

Red Crescent Urges Pressure on Iran To Swap POW's
*JN1107103889 Baghdad INA in English 0930 GMT
11 Jul 89*

[Text] Baghdad, July 11, INA—The Iraqi Red Crescent Society urged the International Committee of the Red Cross and all international and Arab Red Crescent Societies to press on Iran to carry out an exchange of prisoners of war who spent more than 8 years in captivity.

In telegrams sent to these societies, the Iraqi society urged human organizations to exercise pressure on Iran to respond to Iraq's appeals and commit human laws and Geneva conventions and also Security Council Resolution No. 598.

The Iraqi society asked human organizations to undertake their role fully in service of the Red Crescent and Cross movement and human rights.

Iraq called in an initiative recently the exchange prisoners of war regardless to the results of the direct negotiations and also tabled a proposal for an exchange of sick and disable POWs, but Iran continued on considering the question of POWs as a card for political pressure and consequently rejected all those initiative.

The Iraqi Red Crescent Society said that more than one year had elapsed on the cessation of hostilities between Iraq and Iran and the latter was still rejecting the application of the Security Council Resolution 598 and turned down appeals for a comprehensive exchange of POWs despite Iraq's repeated calls announced by President Saddam Husayn.

The society stressed that Iran neglects a swap of POWs and continued breaching the human international law and Geneva conventions as concern prisoners of war.

President Husayn Presides Over Cabinet Session
*JN0807164789 Baghdad INA in English 1617 GMT
8 Jul 89*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, July 8, INA—President Saddam Husayn today presided here over a session of the Council of Ministers that continued for more than four hours.

During the session, President Husayn stressed that 'the Qadisiyah' was not a transient state in the life of Iraqis and that our historic task at present was to view the future with awareness and analysis. President Husayn added that martyrs of the Qadisiyah should not be turned into a monument in the Rasafah side only but that their memory should always be live in the life of people... in the art and social and cultural life. [passage omitted]

During the session, the Council of Ministers discussed topics included on the agenda and adopted the suitable decisions and measures for them. [passage omitted]

The Council also reviewed results of the visit paid to Baghdad by the foreign ministers of the tripartite committee on Lebanon and talks held by Mr. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister with the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in Rome on following up negotiations for realizing lasting and comprehensive peace between Iraq and Iran.

Shamir Cited on Peace Initiative, Coalition

TA1107122289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The prime minister has repeated that the Israeli peace initiative is still valid, and that as far as he is concerned the partnership with the Alignment in the cabinet will continue. Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports that Mr Shamir said this to the president of the Bundesrat, the upper house of the West German parliament, who is visiting Jerusalem. The visiting German had asked about the peace initiative and the chances for the continued existence of the unity government.

In response to the visitor's question on whether the FRG can help promote the initiative, Mr Shamir said that the FRG is an important country in Europe, its voice is heard, and it can encourage and promote the peace initiative by talking to those Arab countries with which it has good relations.

Alignment May Remain if Sharon Demands Defeated

TA1107184589 Jerusalem Television Service
in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] What do people in the Alignment say? Confidants of Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin said this evening that if Minister Sharon's demands are brought up for a vote in the cabinet, and they are defeated by a majority vote, this may convince the Alignment to remain in the cabinet.

The prime minister said today: If it were up to me alone, the partnership between the Likud and the Alignment would continue. It is inconceivable that elections be held twice in 1 year in a normal country. The prime minister was speaking in a meeting with the president of the German Bundesrat.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said that if Minister Sharon's proposal for amendments to the initiative is brought to the cabinet for a vote, it will be defeated by a vast majority. He added that the United States will find out in the next few days that no change has been introduced into the political initiative.

Likud To Call Elections if Alignment Withdraws

TA1207155289 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] The meeting of the Likud cabinet ministers, in which they discussed the Alignment's threats to dissolve the unity government, has ended. Here is Moshe Hakohen from the Prime Minister's Bureau.

[Begin recording] [Hakohen] No dramatic decisions were taken at the meeting of the Likud cabinet ministers. The prime minister reviewed the situation in the wake of

the Alignment's decision to resign from the coalition. Shamir expressed his intention to try and maintain the unity government, and if this fails—to call for early elections.

There was no discussion of conciliatory gestures toward the Alignment, and no suggestions were made to attempt to set up a narrow government.

Upon the meeting's conclusion, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi told us that there will be no conciliatory gestures toward the Alignment.

[Levi] What I say—on behalf of us all—is that the continued existence of the unity government constitutes the desire of all the Likud, all its members. There is no call here for gestures or groveling. We are all bound by our responsibility to maintain this government. If the Labor Party decides to resign—even though elections are not a good thing and we do not welcome them—and there is no choice, then we will call for elections as this is the only way out of the situation which the Labor Party is creating.

[Hakohen] Minister Ehud Olmert, one of Shamir's confidants, also stressed the fact that there is no reason for any conciliatory gestures toward the Alignment.

[Olmert] A simple question must be asked. Has anything changed over the last few days in the government's position which could justify a walk-out by the Alignment? To the best of our understanding nothing has happened that justifies this, because we have announced that the peace initiative—as endorsed by the cabinet—is alive and kicking, valid, and binding. Therefore, there is no reason to resign.

[Hakohen] In approximately 2 hours the Alignment ministers will convene for a meeting of their own. So far the coalition crisis still appears to be at a dead end. [end recording]

Sharon, Levi Meet, Discuss 'Braces' to Plan

TA1107152089 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The braces are valid and binding. This is the position of Ministers Sharon and Levi, who conferred today. Moshe Hakohen updates from Minister Levi's office:

[Begin recording] The meeting of the ministers from the Levi-Sharon camp was held in Minister Levi's office. The meeting was also attended by former Minister Avraham Sharir, as well as Knesset Members [MK's] Mikha'el Eytan and Tzahi Hanegbi. Minister Moda'i did not show up. The professed purpose for the meeting was to sum up the achievements of what they call the Eretz Yisra'el camp in the Likud Central Committee in view of the latter's resolution. No communique was issued at the end of meeting.

MK Tzahi Hanegbi nevertheless told us that all the participants of the debate agreed that the Likud Central Committee resolution, including the braces added by the central committee to the political initiative, is binding on all the Likud ministers. He also described as not serious the report that Minister Sharon's proposal to append the famous braces to the political initiative will be raised for a vote in the cabinet by the prime minister in order that it may be defeated, thereby eliminating the pretext for the Alignment leaving the government. The Prime Minister's Office has denied that report, and the participants, according to MK Hanegbi, did not take it seriously.

It seems that the main purpose of the meeting today was to show the prime minister that the camp consisting of the three ministers objects to conceding anything to the Alignment insofar as the political initiative is concerned.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi left that meeting for a meeting with the prime minister. The two are expected to discuss Likud plans in view of the Labor Party's decision to secede from the coalition.

Members of Mr Shamir's office say that the prime minister believes that if the Alignment follows through on its decision to withdraw from the coalition, the Likud should prefer early elections to the establishment of a narrow-based government. Nonetheless, the prime minister will work quietly to appease the Alignment. In the next few days he will confer with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to persuade him that the Likud Central Committee resolution does not preclude promotion of the political initiative, and that it does not imply a ban on informal contacts with the inhabitants of the territories prior to the termination of the intifadah [uprising]. The prime minister will also emphasize that as far as he is concerned, the Likud Central Committee resolutions do not alter the political initiative one bit. [end recording]

Levi Interviewed

TA1107154089 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Telephone interview with Deputy Prime Minister David Levi after his meeting with Minister Sharon and other members of the camp behind the Likud Central Committee resolution specifying four principles before accepting Prime Minister Shamir's political initiative, by Gay Zohar and Goni Mardor on 11 July—live]

[Text] [Zohar] Good evening, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi.

[Levi] Good evening.

[Zohar] Let us first ask the obvious question: When you raised your proposals to the Likud Central Committee, did you in any way imagine that the Alignment would take such an exceptional action, namely splitting from the government, and making early elections a realistic possibility?

[Levi] I think that the Alignment's reaction is simply incomprehensible and may be tied to other considerations. If anyone deluded himself that the Likud was split, with so-called moderates opposing extremists, he was wrong. Maybe that is reason enough for such a person to feel disappointed. We passed resolutions that are binding on all of us. They were voiced by the prime minister in the clearest fashion.

[Mardor] But the Alignment regards this as a violation of an agreement.

[Levi] I do not understand what agreement they are talking about. There is an initiative, and it was endorsed. Will anyone force the Likud to accept positions that are unnatural to it? We passed resolutions that are binding on us. The Alignment then angrily said that this constitutes a violation of some assessment of theirs that was totally unfounded in the first place.

[Zohar] The Alignment said that the Likud Central Committee resolutions left the initiative, as passed by the cabinet, devoid of any content. In other words, that if the additional points approved by the Likud Central Committee are appended to the initiative, there is no hope that this initiative can get underway.

[Levi] I would like to know whether the Alignment thinks that its views are binding on the Likud. Our resolutions are binding on us. We did not seek a cabinet revision of the initiative. The cabinet passed a resolution which is honored.

As for the points that remained open, the Likud accepted certain positions. Let me ask the Alignment: Even prior to the Likud Central Committee meeting, the Alignment ministers said certain things regarding the Arabs of East Jerusalem, the principle of territories for peace, and what I would term the need to talk to the PLO—a violation of the government's basic guidelines and of all the positions of the unity government. So why should they be allowed to say something in utter contradiction of what was self-evident, whereas we cannot adopt resolutions that apply to our own members as to how we will act with respect to these points? I must say that I think that the Alignment is actually presenting dictates here, saying: We are familiar with the Likud's positions, but we compel you not to dare to note, highlight, or accept them. I do not understand this. There can be only one explanation for this: That the Alignment truly counted on the Likud's division into two blocs, one close

to the Alignment's positions, and the other farther from it, and was disappointed to learn that the Likud unanimously passed resolutions that are binding on all its members.

[Zohar] So let us examine whether the Likud is really not divided. If the proposal is raised again, will the Likud ministers unanimously vote in favor of the initiative, if it is presented the way it was last time?

[Levi] I ask myself, in light of all the speculation, the announcements, and the strange and conflicting reports, who will raise it? I cannot imagine this happening.

[Mardor] The prime minister may do it.

[Levi] I cannot conceive of the prime minister raising an issue which is the bone of contention, thereby actually violating the Likud Central Committee's resolution.

[Mardor] But what if such a proposal is nevertheless raised, Minister Levi?

[Levi] You may as well be asking me for my reaction to an absurdity. If the Alignment wants to raise it, it will be confronted with the united position of the entire Likud.

[Zohar] What will it be?

[Levi] That if the Alignment wants anything beyond what the Cabinet accepted, which is to say if it wants to raise its own positions or reject ours, it is looking for what I would call reasons to foment a crisis over something which, from its standpoint, is totally groundless.

[Mardor] Minister Levi, do you believe that if a proposal that includes the braces is raised, it would be adopted?

[Levi] I first of all cannot imagine who would do that. I cannot imagine that any Likud member would raise it. This is unreasonable. If the Likud is forced to react to a proposal the Alignment raises—which would actually be based on the letter the Alignment Central Committee decided upon which, as I heard today, presents a demand by authoritative representatives of the Labor Party for answers on every individual point included in the principles—and if the Likud is expected to come up with answers that will satisfy the Alignment, the Likud as a body will react with a no.

[Levi] As a political maven who knows both the Alignment and the Likud well, can you give us your cautious estimate as to whether the unity government will exist until the next scheduled elections? Will it not be dissolved earlier?

[Levi] It depends. It is not merely the desire of one party that will determine things. This should be a two-way street, specifically it requires reciprocity. I do not think there are grounds to dissolve the government. But if the

Labor Party has reached the conclusion that it must withdraw from the coalition, it must have its own reasons. Certainly it would not be because of the Likud's resolutions.

[Zohar] Thank you very much, Minister David Levi.

[Levi] All the best.

Shamir, Levi Meet, Discuss Alignment 'Threat'
TA1107170489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1630 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The meeting between the prime minister and Deputy Prime Minister David Levi ended in the prime minister's office a short while ago. The two discussed the Alignment's threat to resign from the government. According to Levi, they agreed to work together to foil the Alignment's trends.

The housing and construction minister also added that the prime minister never intended to raise the cabinet resolution on the political initiative for ratification or revision, and has no intention of doing this in the future either.

Levi Interviewed

TA1107173589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Telephone interview with Deputy Prime Minister David Levi following his meeting with Prime Minister Shamir on 11 July, by Hayim Zissowitz—live]

[Text] [Zissowitz] Minister David Levi, can you hear us?

[Levi] Yes.

[Zissowitz] You have already stated your position. The Likud Central Committee has already voted in favor of adding the braces—those conditions appended to Shamir's peace initiative. What then did you just discuss with the prime minister?

[Levi] Does an Alignment decision paralyze the Likud? Today, of all times, the need for coordinated and joint action for the purpose of unity is of utmost importance. This is what we discussed. This will be illustrated by the various components of the Likud Movement. This need demands that we work together, showing maximum coordination, in order to confront the Alignment's trends, and meanwhile remain faithful to the principles which we unanimously accepted.

[Zissowitz] Is there any connection between this meeting and the one held earlier in your office with Minister Ari'el Sharon and Knesset Members Mikha'el Eytan and Tzahi Hanegbi?

[Levi] We met to assess the situation against the backdrop of the Alignment's moves. Of course, the conversation and discussion with the prime minister revolved around many issues which I would sum up by saying that today, more than ever before, we must all work together in coordination and cooperation.

[Zissowitz] Does that mean that you also wanted to stop the prime minister from following through with what the press reported as his intention of bringing these principles, which you appended to the peace treaty, before the cabinet to have them rejected?

[Levi] I do not know where the press got this notion or report.

[Zissowitz] Did you discuss it with the prime minister? Did the prime minister explain to you that this report is unfounded?

[Levi] We also discussed this issue. I have been authorized to state that the prime minister has never had, and does not now have the intention of bringing the issue up for ratification, certainly not for revision—as many elements have claimed. I am therefore puzzled that you should mention this.

[Zissowitz] Minister Levi, does this meeting signify the ironing out of differences within the Herut Movement? Why then was Minister Sharon not invited to the meeting with the prime minister?

[Levi] That too will come, in due course. Not only will he be invited, but also all the ministers, in order to work together. The decisions we made were reached together, and they are binding on all of us. They are not anything about which a certain group would say: I am committed to them; while another group would say: I am not. If anyone has conjured up such an illusion in his mind, namely that a certain part of the faction honors the central committee resolution, while another does not, I think he is in for a surprise. We reiterated today that we are all united in remaining faithful to the principles and resolutions reached by our party.

[Zissowitz] Is the prime minister trying to drive a wedge between you and Minister Sharon? Such rumors were spread today.

[Levi] Not at all. There was no such attempt. We discussed ways to unite all the forces to stand together. The most important thing is that the atmosphere of unity of ranks, as manifested in the central committee meeting, will also be expressed in how we face up to the political front.

[Zissowitz] When you say the political front you are probably referring to the political front opposing the Labor Party. But you must also have heard about the statements of Ministers Roni Milo and Moshe Arens that

nothing has changed, and that the central committee resolution does not at all alter the cabinet resolution—which does not include the principles on which you insisted.

[Levi] I am not in the habit of interpreting the reasons people give to express a wish, or perhaps transmit a message. We adopted our resolutions. They are binding on all the Likud ministers and the party's Knesset members. At the same time, we are not forcing them on anyone else. This is our position, and it is binding on all of us. I therefore cannot understand how the Labor Party, by issuing threats, can imagine that it could disarm the Likud of its positions, and make it renege on its resolutions. These are resolutions that were adopted by all of us.

[Zissowitz] Minister David Levi, let me ask you one practical question: Are you preparing for the possibility that the Alignment may withdraw from the cabinet?

[Levi] If the Alignment seeks a pretext to withdraw, I think the argument that the adoption of the principles by the Likud Central Committee is the cause for this simply does not hold water. It does not even sound serious. Even before the Likud Central Committee met, the Alignment ministers talked about granting the Arabs of East Jerusalem the right to participate in the elections, and even about the need to talk to the PLO—although this is in complete contrast to the cabinet's position. They also mentioned the principle of territories for peace. They said all this, thinking that the Likud would stand idly by and issue no protest. They thought the Likud would in fact be paralyzed. Yet the Likud has stipulated its positions, and they are binding on all its members. Just as we do not force our positions on the Labor Party, it is inconceivable that anyone could imagine that he will force his positions on us.

[Zissowitz] Finally, to return to the issue at hand, did you and the prime minister discuss some proposal or move to appease the Labor Party, or talk it out of its intention of quitting?

[Levi] There is no need for any move or any such lure. It is nothing but an illusion.

[Zissowitz] In other words, from your standpoint they can leave?

[Levi] We do not want them to withdraw, but neither are we forcing them to realign their resolutions according to our will. I think—and in fact the entire Likud shares this view—that the Labor Party can continue in this partnership, that it has no reason to withdraw, and that this move would be utterly incomprehensible. If, however, it nevertheless decides to bolt for reasons of its own, or if it entertains some illusion that the Likud may bow to its dictates on fundamental issues, the last few days have caused disappointment in its ranks. It should not withdraw, but if it decides to do that, all is not lost.

[Zissowitz] Is it possible to continue together?

[Levi] I think so. I think we must. But after all, this desire cannot be one-sided. It must be a reciprocal sentiment. If these two bodies are considering continuing marching hand in hand, this will happen. If, however, one party, for reasons of its own which have absolutely nothing to do with the political issue—which I believe is a pretext no one can understand—sees fit to withdraw, this will be its decision for which it will be responsible no matter what the consequences.

[Zissowitz] Thank you very much, Minister David Levi.

Arens: Unity Needed To Combat 'Crisis'
*TA1107182189 Jerusalem Television Service
in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Jul 89*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by Shlomo Ganor at the minister's Jerusalem office on 11 July—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Text] [Arens] [Picked up in midsentence] ...if they propose in the government changes in the political initiative as approved by the government some 2 months ago, such a proposal will be supported by a very small minority in the cabinet, and will be defeated.

[Ganor] What would the meaning of that be?

[Arens] If the issue is raised, and if there is a vote, and if, as I believe, there is a big majority against implementing any changes in the political initiative, I assume that it will constitute additional proof that the condition of the initiative is exactly as it was when approved by the government several months ago.

[Ganor] Will that constitute a way out of the maze into which we have wandered?

[Arens] It is difficult to say. If the Labor Party is looking for an excuse to leave the government, then nothing will get us out of the maze. If they want to leave then they will do so. If they are looking for a way to retreat, to continue the unity government, which I believe is what the nation needs at the present time—some 8 months after the previous elections is not the time to have new elections—then that might be the way.

[Ganor] What is the solution?

[Arens] The problem must be defined. If the problem is the continuation of the unity government, then the solution is to convince the Alignment that disbanding the government at present, and pushing Israel into new elections, would not serve the country and the people of Israel.

I hope we will manage to convince them, or perhaps they will convince themselves, that that is simply not the way. Perhaps the fact that they left themselves a long period of

time before convening their central committee might be an expression of their desire to find a way to avoid taking the far-reaching move of leaving the government.

[Ganor] Would the Likud rather bring elections forward, or form a narrow-based government if the Labor Party continues in its present position?

[Arens] I am convinced that it is very important for the State of Israel at this time to have a broad-based government. I would not even like to think of returning to the negotiations we held on the eve of setting up this government, when both sides—the Alignment and ourselves—studied the possibilities of setting up a narrow-based government. I am convinced that elections would not be good for Israel at this time. We are facing many problems. What we need is a government that leads, and not a long period of elections. As we know, afterward there is a relatively long period during which attempts are made to set up a government. Such a time-out, if we can call it that, is not what is required at present.

[Ganor] The Americans nevertheless doubt the sincerity of the Israeli peace initiative. How will you reply to Secretary of State Baker?

[Arens] There is no reason for such doubts. I can understand that there might be people who do not understand the political system in Israel; who do not understand the link between the political parties setup and the national institutions, and might have reached that conclusion, but that is not the situation. I am confident of my ability to convince the U.S. Administration representatives that nothing has changed, and I believe that formally they know that. National decisions are made only by the government. The political initiative is a national decision made by the government. As long as it is not changed by the government, it remains exactly as it was when approved.

[Ganor] To conclude, Mr Arens, is the crisis behind us or still before us?

[Arens] No, I would say that we are in the midst of the crisis, and I suppose it will take some time before we can tell whether we have gotten out of it. Getting out of it, in my view, must be based on an evaluation and conclusion by both large parties, Likud and Alignment, that the State of Israel at the present time must have a broad-based government, which means the continuation of the present government.

Editorials, Commentary View Labor Party Decision

Labor Urged To Quit Coalition
*TA1107125589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 11 Jul 89 p 4*

[Editorial: Labor Picks Up the Gauntlet]

[Text] For over six months now, ever since it made possible the formation of another national unity government, Labour has been content to run errands for the

Likud. The party's reward for dutiful service was the ignominy heaped upon it by the Likud's Central Committee last week. Stung by that act, Labour has at long last begun to reassert itself.

The present government, under the Likud's chairman, Yitzhaq Shamir, was not set up under the sign of a peace initiative conceived, and largely drafted, by Labour's Yitzhaq Rabin.

Had he been able to keep clinging to Likud formulas, supposedly representing Camp David in its undiluted form, Mr. Shamir would have done so. It was the PLO's sudden leap from the doghouse into America's good graces that forced the premier's hand. If Israel was not to lose its most-favoured-nation status in American eyes, and to successfully deflect growing pressure for an international conference, it had to launch a bold new peace initiative of its own, excluding the PLO.

Mr. Rabin's sensible proposal for Palestinian elections met just that requirement, and it promised to serve as the basis for a national consensus. Provided, of course, that the Likud and Labour reached an understanding on the modalities for a Palestinian poll, even at the price of leaving points of dispute unsettled, and that they agreed to shelve their irreconcilable disagreement on the manner of ultimately settling the territorial problem. That was presumably done.

The initiative was no sooner launched on its course under U.S. sponsorship, however, than the supposed understanding began to crumble. Mr. Shamir mounted Likud platforms and invited the Palestinians to adhere to the initiative by pledging to yield them "not one single inch." His excuse was a made-to-order dichotomy between his roles as premier and party leader. Labour demurrers, if any, did not rise above a whisper.

That finally led to the cruel mauling of the initiative in the Likud's Central Committee last week, where Mr. Shamir joined the party's peace-initiative rejectionists in sticking their sharp "hoops" into its frail body—and this, after he had repeatedly vowed not to let them touch the text. Mr. Shamir's defence was, and still is, that the committee resolution binds the party, not its government emissaries. The resolution in fact says the exact opposite.

For Labour to ignore the mayhem perpetrated by the premier, and the implied insult to the major coalition partner, would have been to commit political suicide. A party that has no respect for itself cannot expect to command respect from the voting public. Without a peace process, Shim'on Peres reminded the party's bureau yesterday, Labour has no business being in the government. The argument was not disputed.

The bureau's near-unanimous decision to recommend to the central committee that it take Labour out of the government, was inevitable.

Haste in that direction will be made slowly. Due weight will presumably be given to James Baker's plea that the party avoid precipitous action. But not, it may be hoped, undue weight: The United States has by now convinced nonannexationist Israelis that they must themselves secure their country's salvation and not look to Washington "to save Israel from itself." The same applies to self-serving advice by American-Jewish leaders who prefer to see a "creative political manoeuvre" in Mr. Shamir's surrender to the Likud's initiative-busting trio.

The premier's party has, in fact, been granted a few weeks' time to persuade Labour to stay in. But the attempt at persuasion will surely fail if it rests on such phony arguments as that the Likud resolution is not a reason, but a mere excuse, for Labour to leave the government. If that were the case, Mr. Rabin would not have joined Mr. Peres in sponsoring the bureau's decision.

Such Likud arguments may, of course, harm Labour if it breaks up the national unity government and elections follow. And the present disinclination of the increasingly rightward-leaning electorate to engage in another bout of national voting may have the same effect. But a political party must look to a future beyond tomorrow.

Having picked up the gauntlet, Labour cannot fail to fight for the defence of basic principles.

Sincerity Examined

TA1107145689 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
11 Jul 89 p 13

[Commentary by Dan Margalit: "Tactics or Evasion"]

[Text] Many Labor Party Bureau members do not believe that their leaders really intend to quit the government. After yesterday's meeting in the Knesset building—a place they aspire to enter as legitimate members—senior activists fear that Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin are exploiting them for their own political ends. If Peres proposed a toughly-worded draft letter to be sent to Yitzhaq Shamir when the Labor Party Central Committee convenes some place, at some unknown date—they say sarcastically—then this is proof that what he is really doing is trying to gain time and stay in the Treasury. Rabin gave a somewhat vague speech that, on the one hand showed he will try to continue contacts with the Palestinians in the territories, and on the other said the Likud braces ruin the chances for this dialogue. Bureau members hint with a smirk that these are tactics taken with the intention of remaining in the Defense Ministry.

That is not surprising. Labor Party activists themselves have not yet signaled whether they prefer to renew the campaign for early elections, or spend the summer enjoying the outdoors with their families.

The braces of Ari'el Sharon, David Levi, and Yitzhaq Moda'i have finally aroused the Labor Party from its sleep. This one-time opportunity has perhaps arrived to save the party from erosion and disintegration. It is now clear that it is Shamir who is unreliable and inexperienced. He promised the Americans, Peres, and Rabin that he would fight Sharon, Moda'i, and Levi, and would not give in, but he did finally cave in. What has remained of all the praise of the prime minister as a genius in political maneuvering? It has all disintegrated. The old truth that you cannot fool all the people all the time has again shown to be the case. When the U.S. delegation arrives next week it will be apparent that Shamir is in a tight spot. He can trick the Labor Party, he can infuriate Peres and Rabin, but the truth about his position on the issue of voting rights for East Jerusalem Arabs will be revealed.

The Labor Party knows that there is no real recourse to a narrow right-wing government. Dan Meridor, Ehud Olmert, and Roni Milo are more afraid of Rehav'am Ze'evi, Refa'el Eytan, and Ge'ula Kohen than a partnership with Peres. Beni Begin has no future with Sharon as defense minister. Shamir also knows that with Tehiya, Tzomet, and Moledet in the government, not a single crumb of the peace initiative will remain. He has no alternative to new elections, with new groups of seven [making up the Likud Knesset list lineup], and what will happen the day after elections? Is he counting on public opinion polls? On a swing to the right? Somebody like Shamir knows they cannot be relied upon. A sympathetic U.S. newspaper has already recommended stopping the flow of aid to Israel. With a rupture in relations with the United States, even the Likud cannot win a new election.

Under these current conditions, the Labor Party yesterday chose a complex and even embarrassing response. The bureau's decision to recommend to the party's central committee to quit the government if the Likud's braces are not changed—without determining an exact date for the decisive debate—was seen as evasion, delaying tactics, and a hint to Shamir to now shift the pendulum from Sharon to Rabin in order to maintain government unity. The decision by the Alignment faction to vote with their feet for yesterday's no-confidence motion by running out of the hall, hiding the ministers, and covering their eyes does not bring honor to the faction which claims it does not fear living in the opposition wilderness. It certainly does not conform with public order and responsibility. The fact that somebody anonymously signed a legal opinion stating that absence from a vote of no-confidence is not the same as abstaining, and enables a coalition to continue existing, was not taken seriously even in the Alignment. Legal expert Shim'on Shitrit did not support it.

But distorted parliamentarism and overrefined logic are somewhat balanced by another Peres-Rabin consideration. There is a point to their short-range wait for the Americans. They want the Likud, which claims that

despite the four braces it will find a Palestinian negotiating partner, to show what it comes up with, and prove that the logic of Moda'i, Levi, and Sharon is, and prove Shamir into a deadlock. Peres and Rabin is leading political house to fall on the heads of the Likud want this initiative.

This provides a basis for the hope that perhaps Labor Party activists have suspected Peres this time unjustly. Perhaps this time they are really working out a new tactical concept that would permit Arabs working out a territories to consult with the PLO-Tunis; and from the despite the ridicule Labor Party activists have and perhaps, their own leaders, they have nevertheless begun directed at their party onto the runway for taking off on gun to shift out. on the path

Reasons 'Unconvincing'

TA1207100189 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
11 Jul 89 p 2 brew

[Editorial by Ilan Kfir: "Unconvincing Reasons"]

[Text] It is unclear what made Shim'on Peres declare unilaterally that he is quitting the government rush to breaking up the governmental partnership. It is game and believe that Sharon's braces alone were the cause is hard to declaration of war. The same way the Likud cause for the Committee voted for these braces, the Labor Central Committee at the time opted to introduce the Labor Central of territorial compromise; the unity government principle founded, nonetheless. It would be reasonable to assume that there are additional reasons for this decision to assume that it is Peres' fatigue as finance minister, or Peres' disappointment in his inability to quell the Intifada or Rabin's [uprising]; it could be the frustration of what the Intifada is a historic ruling party that is losing its touch used to be public, and the public's link and sympathy with the perhaps, the Alignment leaders have secret and with it. Or, public opinion polls in their pockets. and flattering

Such a step by the Alignment might have been justified had Prime Minister Shamir, Foreign Minister Aislinn, and Ministers Olmert, Milo, and Meridor demanded Arens, that the initiative be revised and the braces be demanded rated in it. They, however, keep repeating and be incorporated the fact that the initiative exists the way it was and stressing central committee conference, and that it is this before the resolution that counts. the cabinet

Running amok to dismantle the government, the Alignment leaders are ignoring the public will that at the Alignment the continued existence of the unity government wishes for opposes new elections. He who breaks the government and drags the country into a whirlpool of elective unity and shatters the economic framework just might be the loser.

Had the Alignment a true reason for its step, it would have been understandable and regrettable. If it did, it could have been understood. The Alignment's current arguments, however, are unconvincing.

and unjustified. This is not the way a responsible party should behave. This is not the way leaders who wish to be the alternative should make decisions.

The delay in convening the Labor Central Committee provides an opening, although narrow, for Peres and Rabin to reconsider before they slam the door.

Poll Shows Shamir Popularity Up, Peres' Down
TA1207092889 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
12 Jul 89 p A3

[Text] A poll conducted among a representative sample of Israelis shows an increase in the number of those very pleased with Yitzhaq Shamir's performance as prime minister. Last August, the number of those pleased with Shamir reached only 7.2 percent; that number rose to 12.8 percent this year. On the other hand, there was a drop in those very pleased with Peres both as foreign minister, compared to Moshe Arens, and as finance minister, compared to Moshe Nisim.

The survey was conducted by the Teleseger Research Institute in telephone interviews with 501 men and women over the age of 18 located in various parts of the country, who form a representative sample of the Israeli population. It should be recalled that the survey was held before the Likud Central Committee's vote and the "braces" Ministers Levi, Sharon, and Moda'i stuck to Shamir. The poll therefore does not show whether the vote increased or diminished the percentage of those satisfied with Shamir's performance over that vote.

While there was an increase in those very satisfied with Shamir's performance, there was a slight increase in the percentage of those quite satisfied with him: From 33.6 percent (last August) to 36.9 (in July 1989).

Shim'on Peres has lost popularity: As foreign minister (in August 1988), 14.2 percent said they were satisfied with him compared to 19.8 who were pleased with Moshe Arens. As finance minister, 7.4 percent are very pleased with Peres compared to 22.4 percent who were happy with Moshe Nisim as finance minister.

The intifadah also eroded the number of those very pleased with the performance of Yitzhaq Rabin as defense minister: From 27.1 percent in August 1988 to 23 percent last July. But the numbers who are quite pleased with Rabin grew from 24.3 percent in August 1988 to 35.7 in July of this year.

U.S. Victims of Bus Attack Criticize Reaction
TA1107143789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] U.S. citizens who were wounded in the bus attack [on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway on 5 July] sharply attacked the U.S. State Department's refusal to describe it as a terrorist attack.

Ella Emresh, of Kansas City, who together with her son was wounded in the attack, today described the hell in the burning bus and asked: If that is not terrorism, what is?

Our correspondent David Essing reports that Mrs Emresh and relatives of another female casualty addressed a Jerusalem news conference this morning, and called on the United States to emphatically denounce the attack and label it an act of terrorism.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Alon Li'el said that Israel is concerned because the Palestinians study U.S. State Department reactions, and the U.S. refusal to condemn the attack might influence similar attacks in the future.

'Terror' Announcement Satisfactory
TA1207044689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem has expressed its satisfaction with the U.S. announcement calling the attack on the bus an act of terror. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that he regrets the fact that this announcement was made 6 days after the attack. [passage omitted]

Labor Party Cited on Ross' 'Gross Interference'
TA1207050589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 12 Jul 89 p 1

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Text] Senior Labour sources expressed anger and astonishment last night at what they described as "threats and gross interference in Israel's internal affairs" by State Department policy planning chief Dennis Ross.

The sources said that senior Jewish leaders had conveyed a message from Ross to Vice-Premier Shim'on Peres calling on Labour not to leave the government and "threatening" Labour that if it does leave, it will be accused of sabotaging the government's peace initiative.

"We find it hard to believe that anybody in Secretary of State James Baker's entourage could so bluntly interfere in Israel's internal affairs," the sources said.

Editorial Criticizes U.S.
TA1107132789 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
11 Jul 89 p A14

[Editorial: "A Visit Tinged With Impudence"]

[Text] A high-level U.S. delegation, headed by Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, is about to arrive in Israel to check up on the condition of the government's peace initiative. The delegation is coming all panicked as a result of the decisions taken by the Likud's Central Committee, and mainly because of the sound of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's speech.

The United States—by virtue of the timing and announcement of the delegation's visit—is undoubtedly introducing an element of drama to the diplomatic process. This is a good thing. Any process—and especially a complex and contradictory political process—needs drama to keep from atrophying.

The United States, however, is not content with this. Someone in the Washington administration approached Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin with a request to refrain from quitting the government. We are not discussing the question of resignation from the government. But the request is impudent. It not only constitutes interference in an internal Israeli issue, it is interference in the internal affairs of an Israeli political party.

Elections were held in Israel and a government was formed. If any of the coalition partners were to find themselves unable to remain in the government—they must leave the government as a result of their own considerations.

If Washington has any complaints about Israel it must refer them to the correct address: The Government of Israel, and not some party or another.

Aside from this, the delegation is very welcome. We hope that the visit will indeed facilitate the consolidation of a peace process, and a clarification of the Israeli and U.S. positions. And if the visit is a success—from the point of view of the peace process—the Labor Party will not have to resign from the coalition.

The United States' role is to help further peace, but not by interfering in an internal political move by an Israeli political party.

Netanyahu Interviewed on U.S. Delegation Visit
TA1107164489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Telephone interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by Goni Mardor and Guy Zohar—live]

[Text] [Zohar] Good evening. In the discussion in Minister Levi's office this evening, Levi and Sharon dismissed the possibility that Shamir would reintroduce the political initiative in the cabinet. Is that your evaluation too?

[Netanyahu] I do not want to make evaluations about the prime minister's decisions, but I would like to say that in my view talk about changes or amendments, or strengthening the initiative with some sort of braces, puts the issue in the wrong perspective. Talk about the initiative failing is simply incorrect. This initiative has not yet been tested, and with all due respect, the test is not in the Likud Central Committee, and not in the Labor Party

Central Committee, and not between us and the Americans. The main test is in the ability of Arab partners to come and talk about the initiative. If they have complaints, then they should come and present them at the negotiating table. This has not been done.

[Mardor] But, before this dialogue with partners takes place, a U.S. delegation is due to arrive, in about 1 week, to check on the seriousness of the intentions of the initiative, as Secretary of State Baker has said.

[Netanyahu] Yes, they are supposed to be coming. By the way, the exact date is still unknown to us. We are, of course, in contact with the Americans, but neither we nor they have clear information on either the delegation's composition, or the timing of its arrival. If they come, we will talk with them and welcome them. We will, of course, be discussing international political issues, rather than internal issues with them.

[Zohar] The United States, of course, has a role in persuading those surrounding us with whom it is in contact, sometimes closely, on the election proposals. Deputy Foreign Minister Netanyahu, there have been reports from Egypt. Do you expect the U.S. delegation to have a mediation role, first of all between us and the Egyptians, who of course have even greater influence in the Arab world?

[Netanyahu] We do not need any mediation between us and Egypt. We have direct relations with them, and the last thing we want is to retreat on all the achievements of the peace treaty with Egypt. That, therefore, is not the main issue. The United States certainly has a role in relation to the other Arab countries, even to a certain extent with Egypt, but it seems to me that the main problem is to convince the Arab side to seriously address the substance of the initiative. I would like to remind you that there was no such response even before the Likud Central Committee meeting. We are in fact waiting for a response in principle on whether they are ready or not to consider the peace initiative Israel proposes.

[Mardor] Do you think that after the Likud Central Committee's resolutions a response to the substance of the initiative will come faster?

[Netanyahu] Certainly, it can happen if there is such a desire. The reservations expressed about that, in my view, are aimed at misleading the world. It is no secret that we oppose a Palestinian state. By the way, that condition is not unique to the Likud. It is also no secret that we support continued settlement, and to my regret, it is also not a secret that we are limited by the government's decision and budget constraints to only eight settlements. Whether there will be 100 settlements, which now exist, or 108 is not what will determine whether the peace process continues or not. It is also not a secret that we support quelling the intifadah [uprising]. And as you know, unofficial talks are continuing even while this is happening. The resolution that the intifadah

must cease is the true situation. One cannot imagine a situation of free elections while terrorism, directed not only against Jews but also against Arabs, runs wild. Therefore, those charges, in my view, serve more as a cover for those who do not want to go forward. I think that instead of hurling political fire at each other we should present the world with a clear resolution—via the U.S. delegation and in other ways—calling upon the Arab world to come and present themselves. As long as the Arabs can achieve more by not coming to the negotiating table, then of course they will prefer to present all sorts of conditions.

[Mardor] If the peace initiative reaches a deadlock because of the lack of a possibility for dialogue, then U.S. sources have referred to the possibility of renewing the international conference idea.

[Netanyahu] I have heard such things. I did not read about it, therefore I cannot respond to any quoted source. But the talk about an international conference contains a message to the Arabs saying: If you reject the initiative, if you do not come and instead just wait, there will be an international conference. This is certainly the Arabs' great desire. Such talk assuredly endangers the political initiative, therefore talk about the international conference is not only unacceptable to Israel—and it is clear Israel will not join such a conference—but it does not advance the peace initiative.

[Zohar] Thank you Deputy Foreign Minister Netanyahu.

[Netanyahu] Thank you.

Hungary's Nemeth: Renewal of Relations 'Soon'
TA1107171189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Hungarian Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth said full diplomatic relations with Israel will soon be renewed, but several difficulties must first be overcome. Nemeth made the remarks to a World Jewish Congress [WJC] delegation who came to Budapest for the inauguration of the organization's first office in the east bloc.

Dr Avi Becker, the WZO's [World Zionist Organization] manager in Israel, told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that the delegation was told that the Hungarians expect more aid from Israel in trade.

Peled: IDF To Enter Villages North of Zone
TA1107113789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Excerpt] In the course of yesterday's IDF [Israel Defense Forces] operation north of the security zone, local villagers were warned that the next time, the IDF will not limit its activity to traffic axes and will enter villages to conduct searches and investigations. The army will resort to this measure if terrorist acts from this area continue and if the locals continue aiding terrorist

organizations. These remarks were made this morning by Major General Yosi Peled, Northern Command commander, who spoke with our correspondent Yo'av Aviv while visiting wounded soldiers at Rambam Hospital in Haifa. [passage omitted]

Cited Further

TA1107202289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2000 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Major General Yosi Peled, the commander of the Northern Command, has said that Israel must closely follow Shi'ite-Palestinian cooperation in Lebanon. He was speaking during a tour of Rambam Hospital in Haifa where he visited the two IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers who were wounded in the operation conducted north of the security strip yesterday. The commander of the Northern Command reported that the number of penetration attempts carried out by Palestinian terrorists has increased in the first few months of the year. He noted that yesterday's operation was intended as a deterrent, and as a means to prevent Shi'ite-Palestinian cooperation.

Commentary on Syrian 'Partition' of Lebanon
JN1207151189 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
1335 GMT 12 Jul 89

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Syria has tightened its siege on the Christian ports in Lebanon. According to news agency reports, two Syrian submarines, in addition to gunboats and other naval ships, have recently taken part in this siege. This naval blockade has continued for 4 months. The Lebanese Christian areas were also subjected to land and aerial blockade for more than 3 months imposed by the Syrian forces in Lebanon and the Lebanese militias which receive orders from Syria or that are supported by Syria.

The land and aerial blockade was lifted as a result of the pressures exerted by the Higher Arab Committee mandated by the Casablanca summit to tackle the Lebanese crisis, and by efforts from inside Lebanon, specifically from pro-Syrian Lebanese elements, including Dr Salim al-Huss, prime minister of one of the two governments struggling for power in Lebanon.

We do not want to deal with the announced or real objectives of Syrian blockades. The experience of history and the dynamics of events show that the imposition of blockades, such as those that were imposed or that are being imposed by the rulers in Damascus over the Christian areas in Lebanon, are a sign of partition. In the Lebanese case, it is more correct to say that the imposition of these blockades is an entrenchment of the partition that already existed in reality.

In light of this fact, the question is: How can it be possible to reconcile the Syrian blockade on the Christian areas in Lebanon with the Syrians' avowal that they are against partition and that they will prevent any attempt to divide Lebanon? The same question arises in light of the Iranian military presence in Lebanon that was established in agreement and coordination with Damascus—the presence that was described by Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim as an external attempt to divide Lebanon into petty states through supporting sectarianism.

It might be useless to raise such questions or to wonder about the answer. The tragic Lebanese crisis has turned Lebanon into a theatre for strange things and tragic contradictions. It happened many times in Lebanon that the right hand did not know what the left hand was doing and the right hand destroyed what the left hand was trying to build.

Gazan Murdered; Camp Curfews Noted
*TA1107161489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 11 Jul 89*

[Excerpts] A resident of the Zaytun neighborhood in Gaza, 27-year-old Shakir Muhammad Hassun, was murdered last night. His body was brought to al-Ahali Hospital in Gaza. An investigation by the security forces concluded that the man was shot by residents of his neighborhood. [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1600 GMT on 11 July adds that "the body of Isma'il Hussam Ibrahim Qahlut, aged 27, was brought to al-Shifa' Hospital in Gaza today. An investigation by the security

forces indicated that the youth, who resided in the Jabalyah refugee camp, died of electrocution. The Gaza District police are investigating the circumstances of the case."]

The police affairs minister, the police commissioner, and other senior police officers toured the Gaza Strip today. Our correspondent 'Ezra Yanuv joined them:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] Lively commercial activity was noted in the Gaza Strip today and there was heavy traffic in the cities. Many of the local residents left for work in Israel. Curfews are in force today in the Rafah and al-Burayj refugee camps. [passage omitted]

Attacks on Arabs in Or Yehuda, Jerusalem Areas
*TA1107192989 Jerusalem Television Service
in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 Jul 89*

[Text] The Mesubblim police station has cracked a complex case involving attacks on Arabs and stonings of Arab vehicles in the Or Yehuda area. Our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum reports that seven suspects, including five minors and a soldier serving his compulsory military duty, have been arraigned. The assaults came against a nationalistic and criminal background. Our correspondent adds that the seven are suspected of having repeatedly robbed Arabs, and of having attacked Arabs or their vehicles several times.

Stones and bottles were hurled at Arab vehicles traveling along Pat-Gilo junction in Jerusalem over the past 60 minutes. Our correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov that a 6-year-old Arab girl sustained eye injuries that required medical attention. Israeli youths residing in the vicinity are still congregated around the intersection.

King Orders 'Partial Amnesty' on 'Id al-Adha
JN1107133089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Jordan's King Husayn has ordered a partial amnesty on the blessed occasion of 'Id al-Adha, releasing 45 prisoners convicted of various offenses after having served part of their terms. Our radio has learned that 19 of the released prisoners had been convicted of political offenses.

This is the second amnesty this year. The first was issued on 18 February on the occasion of establishing the Arab Cooperation Council, which comprises Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, and the Yemen Arab Republic.

In May this year, King Husayn issued a special amnesty releasing all those who were detained because of their direct involvement in demonstrations in southern and western Jordan in protest against the high cost of living.

Royal Amnesty Granted

JN1207064789 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B
in Arabic 12 Jul 89 p 1

[Text] Amman—An official source has stated to SAWT AL-SHA'B that the royal order to release prisoners convicted in different cases includes 45 prisoners who have served part of their jail sentences.

The source explained that 16 of the released were convicted of political crimes and have served part of their jail sentences.

The official source noted that this measure is in implementation of the royal order and a continuation of that order, which stipulated that anyone covered by the amnesty must have served half his sentence.

The official source added that this measure does not include those detained or being interrogated. [Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic on 12 July publishes on pages 1 and 16 a similar report saying that the amnesty covers 40 prisoners, including 19 held for political offenses.]

Al-Qasim Cited on Iraqi Arms Shipments

JN1107154989 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] The talks of the Higher Joint Jordanian-Syrian Committee, which began its deliberations yesterday on bilateral economic and trade cooperation in the presence of Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi and Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd Bin-Shakir, will be concluded in Damascus tonight.

The two sides this morning reviewed joint projects and ways to develop them.

The talks held by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim on the sidelines of the Higher Joint Committee meetings tackled the issue of the acquisition by the Christian Lebanese forces of Iraqi weapons via the Jordanian port of al-'Aqabah. Marwan al-Qasim said that any weapons shipped by Iraq via the port of al-'Aqabah will be returned to their sources.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad this afternoon received the Jordanian prime minister and the delegation accompanying him. The talks held between the two sides dealt with the situation in the region, bilateral relations, and the work of the Higher Joint Committee.

Cooperation Minutes Signed With Syria

JN1207063789 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
12 Jul 89 p 3

[Text] Damascus (Petra)—Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir and his Syrian counterpart Mahmud al-Zu'bi have signed minutes of the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meetings, which concluded here Monday. [10 July]

The minutes provided for holding the sub-committee meetings under the chairmanship of the minister concerned in each country.

The sub-committees will be entrusted with discussing means to enhance cooperation in various fields, according to the minutes' provisions.

In the field of agriculture. The committee reviewed issues pertaining to the exchange of technical expertise, provision of seeds and saplings, exchange and streamlining of information on desert locust movement, providing veterinary vaccines and drugs and possibilities of setting up joint venture projects.

In the area of transport, the higher committee has approved the proposals made by the transport and transit committee during its meeting in Amman on June 10, and those made by the joint civil aviation and air transport committee which met on April 4.

The committee also emphasized the need for observing the decision taken by the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company's general assembly on assessing the situation of the company's fleet of buses.

In the industrial sphere, the committee called for the formation of a group to discuss specification and metrology of the commodities produced in both countries, in addition to the exchange of information on raw materials used for local industry and semimanufactured materials.

The committee also called on officials from both countries to look into means of increasing the volume of commodity exchange.

The committee also discussed a number of issues of interest for both countries, including the \$10 million balanced deal, banking arrangements, debts, vegetables and fruits, fairs and production markets.

In the field of electricity, the higher committee has called for resuming studies on the electric grid linking Jordan and Syria, and called on officials from both countries to speed up work on this project.

It also called for drawing up joint training programmes for staff from both countries and for exchanging experiences on the best way to rationalise the use of electricity. They further agreed on using local experiences in carrying out the work on the proposed electric grid.

In the field of oil and mineral resources, the committee decided that a meeting for the joint subcommittee should be held in August. It called for exchange of experiences and information on oil shale and findings of oil explorations and studies on this subject.

In the irrigation sector, the committee called for work to continue on the construction of al-Wahdah Dam, in accordance with the agreement signed by both countries, and that both governments should facilitate all difficulties which might face the smooth implementation of the project.

Daily on Jordanian-Syrian Committee 'Successes'
JN1107140589 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
11 Jul 89 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "A Record Full of Accomplishments"]

[Text] Based on solid foundations of progressive relations of bilateral cooperation and within a framework of joint eagerness to promote the existing bilateral brotherly ties, the higher Jordanian-Syrian joint committee announced the minutes of the meetings held in Damascus over the past 2 days.

The results of the meetings constitute an effective development in the accomplishments realized by the committee since its establishment. They also constitute a new addition to the firm edifice established thanks to the instructions of the two grand Arab leaders His Majesty King Husayn and his brother His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, who were keen to sponsor the committee and give it all means of progress and success.

Thus, President Hafiz al-Asad's meeting with Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir confirmed the special brotherly relations between the two countries and peoples, especially since Jordan and Syria have joint pan-Arab preoccupations, confront common challenges, and share many interests and aspirations.

Thus, Jordan is deeply aware of the importance of bolstering fields of bilateral cooperation with sisterly Syria. Jordan views the future of this relationship with

clear vision and total openmindedness to increase the level of coordination in the industrial fields, lift restrictions on the flow of trade exchange, remove obstacles to the achievement of agricultural integration, and achieve food security.

On this clear basis of joint interests and common objectives, the higher Jordanian-Syrian committee continues its vigorous advance, achieving many tangible accomplishments in various fields of bilateral cooperation. At the same time, the committee addresses the two fraternal peoples' joint hopes and aspirations toward fruitful Arab cooperation and coordination in the economic, trade, political, and many other fields.

While viewing the additional successes achieved by the higher Jordanian-Syrian committee over the past 2 days with great satisfaction, we are confident that the deep-rooted relations between the two fraternal peoples will continue to be promoted to meet the interests of the two sisterly countries and serve the Arab nation's supreme interests.

54 Persons Arrested for Violating Supply Laws
JN1207080689 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Amman—In accordance with the general military governor's order and in coordination with the Ministry of Supply, the Public Security organs have launched a search campaign aimed at seizing violators of the rules governing supplies and putting an end to trading in the citizens' foods.

These campaigns resulted in the arrests of 54 persons in different governorates in Jordan.

The violations included a number of infractions, the most common of which were hoarding certain foodstuffs and raising the prices of others.

It has been noticed that following this campaign and as a result of the decisive measures taken against violators, certain markets were again full of a number of foodstuffs that had been hoarded from the public. Also, the rush to buy has been eased since citizens have become convinced that the crisis is fabricated and caused by a group tampering with prices. Furthermore, prices of other materials, such as cement and reinforcing steel, have dropped.

The relevant bodies are continuing their search campaigns to protect the soundness of the economic situation and prevent the exploitation of citizens. This comes when our country's economic circumstances call upon all to cooperate and refrain from hampering public security and safety. They also call for respect for the law and regulations and for acting according to them in a spirit of good citizenship.

Prime Minister Receives Economic Figures 5 Jul
JN0507203989 Amman Television Service in English
1900 GMT 5 Jul 89

[Text] The prime minister, al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, received at his office this morning the president and members of the Amman Chamber of Commerce. The prime minister said at the meeting that the government was tackling the economic situation in the country and that the national economy was improving. He said that there will be further improvement in the next few days and that Jordan will definitely overcome this difficult phase.

The prime minister explained that the government is working alongside various sectors in the country to achieve the major goals of stabilizing the exchange rate of the dinar and ending the price fluctuations in the commodity markets. The prime minister called on all citizens to participate in shouldering national responsibility by changing the patterns of their lives and embarking on more productivity and self-reliance.

The president and the members of the Amman Chamber of Commerce told the prime minister they will continue their efforts and perform their national duty with a view to coping with the current economic situation. They asserted that they will carry their share of the national sacrifice for the sake of the country and its wellbeing.

Inspects Warehouses

JN1107162089 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, prime minister, Salim al-Masa'idah, deputy prime minister and interior minister, and Ibrahim Ayyub, supply minister, today inspected the Supply Ministry warehouses in al-Juwayyidah area. The prime minister was briefed by the ministry officials on the Kingdom's reserves of basic foodstuffs such as wheat, flour, sugar, rice, powdered milk, meat, frozen chicken, and fodder.

The prime minister was reassured that the reserves of these basic commodities are available in sufficient quantities to meet the Kingdom's needs for 6 months. This is in addition to the quantities that are being shipped or will be shipped in accordance with contracts that will meet the Kingdom's needs for another 3 months. All this will meet the Kingdom's needs for 9 months.

The prime minister also heard a detailed explanation by the supply minister on the measures taken by the ministry to organize the distribution of foodstuffs to consumers throughout the Kingdom to meet their needs continuously and easily.

The prime minister instructed the Supply Ministry and all competent departments to follow up the supply affairs with concern and accuracy to make these goods available

for every house and family. He also stressed the government's concern to take measures to fully protect consumers and prevent any tampering with prices, staple hoarding, and exploitation of the brother citizens.

CBJ To Provide Market With More Dollars
JN0607063989 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
6 Jul 89 p 1

[By Jamal al-'Alawi]

[Text] AL-DUSTUR has learned from an informed source at the Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] that the CBJ will today provide the foreign currency market with a large quantity of U.S. dollars for imports, particularly for foodstuffs and ore materials necessary for certain industries.

The CBJ is expected to provide around \$10 million within the framework of the interference policy which the CBJ began to implement in order to contribute toward maintaining the dinar's stability against foreign currencies and to supply those currencies to meet the priorities of the local market.

Governor Warns Merchants About Illegal Profits
JN1107172689 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The general military governor has issued a decree in accordance with which merchants who exploit the citizens' basic needs will be punished.

Following is the text of the decree:

As some merchants exploit the citizens' needs for illegal profits by hoarding foodstuffs and other commodities to raise their prices despite the Supply Ministry's assertion through the various media organs on the availability of these goods, and in order to put an end to such behavior, the general military governor has decided—in accordance with the prerogatives entrusted to him by the 1967 Martial Law and its amendments—to transfer to the military court any merchant who refrains from selling any basic foodstuff or commodity at the fixed or announced price, closes his shop that sells these goods for illegal causes, hoards any commodity, or commits any violation of the provisions of the supply law. Such merchants will be subject to confiscation and to the toughest penalty stipulated by the law.

'Text' of Amended Electoral Law Published
JN0807103489 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
8 Jul 89 pp 16, 17

[“Text” of Electoral Law for the House of Representatives as amended, in accordance with Council of Ministers decision of 4 July 1989 and approved by royal decree of 5 July 1989]

[Text] Electoral Law for the House of Representatives

Chapter I

Definitions

Article 1. This law shall be called the Electoral Law for the House of Representatives.

Article 2: A. [as published] The following words and expressions, wherever they occur in this law, shall have the specific meanings defined below unless the context indicates otherwise:

Jordanian: Every person, male or female, who holds Jordanian nationality under the provisions of the Jordanian Naturalization Law.

Voter: Every Jordanian who has the right to elect members to the House of Representatives.

Vote Caster: Every voter who exercises his electoral right.

Candidate: Every Jordanian whose application for nomination in the parliamentary elections has been accepted under the provisions of this law.

Representative: Every Jordanian who has been elected to become a member of the House of Representatives.

Administrative Governor: The governor, district officer, or sub-district officer in the governorate.

Constituency: Every part in the Kingdom assigned one or more parliamentary seats under the provisions of this law.

Election Sub-District: Every part of a constituency assigned one or more voting centers.

Voting Center: The polling station assigned by the administrative governor within his constituency.

Review Committee: The committee formed in accordance with a decision by the interior minister in every constituency under the chairmanship of the administrative governor and the membership of a judge and a registrar from the Civil Registration and Passports Department. If there is more than one administrative governor in a single constituency, or if there is more than one constituency in one administrative district, the interior minister shall, upon the recommendation of the governor, appoint one of the administrative governors as chairman of the committee.

Central Committee: The committee formed in every constituency under this law.

Personal Voting Card: The personal voting card issued to the voter in accordance with the instructions given by the interior minister under the provisions of this law.

Resident: A person is normally considered resident in the constituency in which his place of residence exists. He is not considered as nonresident simply because he has been absent from his place of residence, particularly if he has the right to return to this place at any time he wants.

Chapter II

Right of Vote

Article 3: A. Every Jordanian who has attained the age of 19 on 31 July of every year shall the right to elect members to the House of Representatives if his name is registered in any of the final voters' lists.

B. The following are banned from exercising the right of vote:

- (i) One who has been sentenced to imprisonment for more than 1 year for a nonpolitical crime and has not been pardoned.
- (ii) One who has been convicted of bankruptcy and has not been reprieved.
- (iii) One who has been in custody and has not been pardoned for any reason.

Article 4: It is impermissible for a voter to use his right of vote in another election center in which his name has not been registered. It is also impermissible for one to use this right more than once in one election.

Article 5: The right of vote is withheld from members of the Jordanian Armed Forces, public security, and civil defense as long as they are in active service.

Chapter III

The voters' lists

Article 6: The voters' lists are prepared for each constituency and contain the names of the sons of this constituency, or those regularly residing therein. It is impermissible to register any voter on more than one election list.

Article 7: A. The voters' lists are prepared by one or more committees appointed by the administrative governor of each city, town, village, or quarter in his constituency. This committee shall be named the Committee for the Preparation of the Voters' Lists and comprise one chairman and two members. These should be government employees.

B. The committee or committees mentioned in Paragraph A of this article are charged with the preparation of the voters' list in accordance with the instructions, measures, and dates set by the interior minister and as specified by this law.

Article 8: The family book issued by the Civil Registration and Passports Department, and not any other document, shall be the only valid document for the

registration of those who have the right to vote on the voters' lists. A mark shall be placed in the family book to show that the voter has been registered on the voters list pertaining to the constituency in which he resides.

Article 9: A. The voters' list should include all the information as recorded in the family book with respect to the voter's identity, including name, place and date of birth, religion, profession, place of residence, and the number of the family book, place it was issued, and date of its issuance.

B. The committee tasked with the preparation of the voters' lists has to prepare and sign three copies to be submitted to the administrative governor within a period of 15 days after the committee has been set up. The governor has to sign the three copies and keep one for himself. No corrections of any of the copies are allowed unless corrections are called for in accordance with the regulations issued in this respect under the provisions of this law. The other two copies are to be displayed within a period of 7 days from the date on which the voters' lists are submitted to the administrative governor. One of these copies will be displayed in the governor's office; the other will be displayed in a public place that will be decided by the administrative governor in the quarter or city concerned. The voters' lists should be displayed for a period of 10 days.

The Mukhtar or party responsible for this display must submit notification signed by them that the voters' list was displayed as required.

C. Voters whose names do not appear on the voters' list, either unjustly or as a result of an error in their registration data, have the right to request the inclusion of their names on the list or the correction of the data pertaining to them. Voters may also object to the registration of ineligible voters or to the exclusion of eligible voters. The objection should be submitted in writing, free of all fees, to the Review Committee, which is formed according to this law, within 7 days of publication of the voters' list.

D. The Review Committee shall reach a decision on the objections submitted to it within 7 days, and its decisions shall be communicated to the objectors by displaying them for 3 days in the places where the voters' list has been publicized. These decisions are contestable, free of all fees, at the court of first instance in the constituency within 5 days after their release. The court shall decide on these rebuttals within 5 days, and its decisions shall be communicated to the Review Committee within 3 days after their issuance. These decisions shall be final and cannot be appealed before any other body.

E. The Review Committee prepares final lists for all the voters in the constituency. The administrative governor adopts the measures stipulated in Paragraph B of this article.

F. The final lists shall be adopted in the general parliamentary elections or by-elections and balloting will take place according to them.

Article 10: A. Courts in all constituencies shall provide the Review Committee in those constituencies within the period of 15-30 July every year with a list including a summary of the sentences it passed regarding bankruptcy, persons in custody, and imprisonment for more than 1 year for nonpolitical crimes that were not pardoned.

B. The Civil Registration and Passports Department shall provide the Review Committees in the competent constituencies within the period of 15-30 July every year with a list of persons who died in the 12 months preceding the period covered by the measures to review the voters' lists.

Article 11: A. The Review Committee shall, during the first half of August each year, update the voters' lists in its constituency and strike out any names on the basis of information it has obtained from official government departments and note the reasons for so doing in the remarks columns in those lists, provided the information is also consistent with the records of the official departments.

B. Any person can ask the Review Committee in his constituency to register his name on the voter's list if he meets all the legal conditions.

Article 12: Within 7 days after completing its work under the provisions of Article 11, the review committee shall display the names that were struck from or added to the voters' lists at a prominent place in the administrative governor's office for a period of 7 days and also publish these names in the local press.

Article 13: Any person whose name does not appear or has been entered erroneously on the lists mentioned in Article 12 of this law can submit a protest to the Review Committee within 7 days of the display period. It is impermissible for any person who is registered on the voters' lists to contest during the same period the registration of any other person whom he thinks should not enjoy the right of vote or the omission of any person whom he thinks should enjoy that right.

Article 14: The Review Committee shall issue its decisions on the protests submitted to it under Article 13 of this law within a period of not more than 7 days after receiving the protests. It should communicate its decisions to the protestors through a notice which must be displayed for 3 days in the very place the contested lists were displayed. The committee's decisions can be contested before the district court in the constituency within 3 days of the display period. The court shall issue its decisions on the protests within 5 days after receiving

them. Its decisions shall be categorical and cannot be appealed before any other quarter. The court shall communicate its decisions to the Review Committee within 3 days of their issuance.

Article 15: The Review Committee will prepare addenda to the voters lists in each constituency after they become final in accordance with Articles 12, 13, and 14 of this law. One copy is sent to the Interior Ministry; a second copy will be kept by the administrative governor.

Article 16: Voters' lists that have been definitively prepared under the provisions of this law shall be adopted in the general elections or by-elections held in any year.

Chapter IV

Nomination for the House of Representatives

Article 17: When the king issues a decree calling for general elections to the House of Representatives under Paragraph 1 of Article 34 of the Constitution, the Council of Ministers then decides the date of the elections, which should be announced by the prime minister and published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Article 18: Those wishing to nominate themselves for seats in the House of Representatives should fulfill the following conditions:

- A. Have held Jordanian citizenship for a minimum of 10 years and should not hold foreign nationality or enjoy foreign protection.
- B. Be a registered voter on one of the final voters' lists.
- C. Have reached the age of 30 at the end of the nomination deadline.
- D. Not have been convicted for a period exceeding 1 year for a nonpolitical crime, unless pardoned, and not have been convicted for an immoral crime or misdemeanor.
- E. Not to belong to any illegal grouping. An illegal grouping consists of any party or grouping whose principles, objectives, and aims clash with the Jordanian Constitution.
- F. Should not have any material gain from any government department as a result of contracts, except for contracts of property and land leases. This does not apply to those who are shareholders in a company of more than 10 members.
- G. Should not be a relative of the king or those who are appointed by special law.

Article 19: Any person can nominate himself for a seat in the House of Representatives in only one constituency.

Article 20: The following persons are not allowed to nominate themselves for a seat in the House of Representatives unless they submit their resignation at least 1 month before the date of elections: Employees in ministries, government departments, and official and public institutions who receive salaries from the state treasury, from government-affiliated public funds, or those under

its supervision; employees of international organizations; and the heads of municipal and rural councils. The pertinent official quarters have the right to either accept or refuse the resignation. The resignation is considered as legally accepted if no decision is made thereon within a period of 10 days from the date of its submission.

Article 21: Nominations for membership of the House of Representatives shall start 25 days before the date of voting and shall remain open for 3 days. No application for nomination shall be accepted later.

Article 22: A. Candidates must pay a non-refundable 500 Jordanian dinars to the director of the Finance Department in their constituencies

B. A candidate shall submit two applications to the governor in his constituency. The application should include the candidate's name, place of birth, religion, place of residence, and the seat he is contesting as well as the necessary documents and required data in accordance with this electoral law. The candidate is then given a notice from the governor that his application has been received. A nomination application might also be submitted on the form decided by the interior minister.

Article 23: The governor must ascertain that the application, documents, and data are identical with the nomination conditions mentioned in this law. The governor should declare his approval or disapproval within 3 days of the date the application is received.

Article 24: If the governor rejects a nomination application for failure to observe the provisions of this law, he should explain the reasons for his rejection. The nominee has the right to protest the decision at the court of first instance in his constituency within a period of 2 days, and its decision shall be final and cannot be appealed before any other authority.

Article 25: The governor keeps a copy of the nomination applications he accepted and that the court of first instance decides to accept. He shall register these applications in a special record in accordance with the date of application. The governor shall organize a list of the candidates and display it in public places in the constituency once the applications have become irrefutable. The candidates' list should also be published in at least two local newspapers.

Article 26: Any voter has the right to contest the acceptance of any nomination application in his constituency. He can file his protest at the Supreme Court within 3 days following the announcement of the candidates' list, as explained in Article 25 of this law. And the court must pass a judgment on the case within 5 days.

Article 27: The governor shall display the changes that have been introduced to the list of candidates in accordance with the decisions of the Supreme Court of Justice immediately upon receiving them and in the same place

where the original list was displayed as stipulated in Article 25 of the law. This list shall be considered the final list of candidates for the parliamentary elections.

Article 28: If the number of candidates in the final list of any constituency is equal to the number of parliamentary seats assigned to that constituency, those candidates shall be considered as elected unopposed.

Article 29: Petitions, protests, and appeals submitted under this law and the decisions issued by the courts, committees, and administrative governors on them are all exempt from official fees and revenue stamps.

Article 30: A candidate may withdraw his nomination before the end of official hours on the day preceding election day.

Chapter V

The Constituencies and the Seats Allocated to Them

Article 31: The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is divided into several constituencies in accordance with the schedule attached to this law. Each constituency is assigned a number of parliamentary seats as stated therein, effective from the first general election for the House of Representatives held under the provisions of this law and the procedures stipulated therein.

Chapter VI

Election Operations

Article 32: Voting to elect representatives shall be public, by secret ballot, and on a single level.

Article 33: Voting to elect members of the House of Representatives shall be held on 1 day for all constituencies. However, the interior minister may appoint a special day for each constituency or any number of constituencies if necessitated by the safety of the elections and the public interest.

Article 34: A. Each constituency shall form a central committee under the chairmanship of the administrative district court or a member of the president of the district court, and a government employee appointed by the interior minister. The committee shall undertake the tasks provided for in this law.

B. The chairman and members of the central committee shall take an oath before the interior minister that they will perform their task faithfully and honestly.

Article 35: A. The interior minister shall issue election cards for all voters, showing the photos and identity of the voters as stated in the family registration card, issued by the Civil Registration Department. The cards should

also indicate the voter's constituency, balloting center, and number on the list of voters at the assigned voting center. The cards will be valid for a period defined by the minister of interior.

B. The interior minister is entitled to exempt permanently or temporarily any of the data included in the personal election card as stated in Paragraph A of this article, including the voter's photograph.

Article 36: A. The administrative governor shall issue a decision within 30 days after the conclusion of the registration measures or the review of election lists in his constituency after these lists become final in accordance with the provisions of this law. This decision shall be published in the official gazette and local newspapers as well as any other way deemed necessary, and shall include the following:

1. The subdivisions of the constituency.
2. The assignment of one or more balloting centers for each subdivision and the number of voters casting ballots in each center, provided that the number does not exceed 700.
3. An invitation to voters registered in final lists to obtain election cards from the quarters he specifies within a specified period of time.

B. The decision made by the administrative governor in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph A of this article must determine the number of voters in the subconstituencies and the balloting centers the governor assigns for each of them, as well as the available transportation to facilitate the voters' arrival at these centers.

C. The subconstituencies and balloting centers assigned for each of them as defined in the administrative governor's decision, issued in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph A of this article, and in any amended decision he later issues, shall be adopted in any general parliamentary elections or by-elections held any time after the publication of that decision or the decision amending it as required, provided that the balloting centers are made public again when general or by-elections are held.

Article 37: Any voter has the right to protest to the interior minister the decision made by the administrative governor in accordance with the provisions of Article 36 of this law on setting up a balloting center in the subconstituency in which his name is registered or transferring any balloting center from it. Protests should be submitted within 3 days of the publication of this decision, and the minister shall have to issue a decision within 3 days of receiving the protest note. The minister's decision will be final and uncontestable before any administrative or judicial body.

Article 38: A. Voting committees comprising government employees will be in charge of supervising voting centers. The administrative governor shall appoint the committee members and chairman from among them

provided that the latter's grade is not below seven. He is entitled to appoint other employees to help the committee in its work, but no employee shall be appointed in the voting committee if he is linked to any candidate in his constituency with a relationship up to the fourth remove.

B. The voting committee chairman and members shall be sworn in before the constituency's central committee to carry out the task with honesty, integrity, and neutrality before the beginning of the election process.

C. The administrative governor will have to appoint another voting committee or a substitute chairman or member in the case of the absence of the committee members or chairman as required.

Article 39: Elections shall begin at 0700 and end at 1900 on the day of elections. The chairman of the voting committee can extend the voting time until 2100 that day.

Article 40: Every candidate or his authorized representative has the right to attend the voting procedure in any center, but a candidate cannot have more than one representative in any single voting center.

Article 41: The chairman of the voting committee shall prevent any attempt or action that could impede the freedom of balloting, and he has the right to ask any person doing or trying to do so to leave the voting center, and to seek police help to remove him if he refuses to do so by himself.

Article 42: Despite what is stated in this law, heads and members of the voting committees and employees taking charge of work associated with them, as well as the candidates and their representatives, have the right to cast their votes at the centers in which they are employed. In this case, the names of these voters shall be put down on an additional list in which the names of those who exercised their right to vote in that center shall be marked. The list should explain why each of them cast his vote in the center where his name is not registered.

Article 43: A. Voting shall be done on cards stamped with the Interior Ministry logo, stamped by the constituency, and signed on the back by the head of the voting committee.

B. Before the voting process takes place, the voting committee shall check all the received cards and, in case of a shortage, the head of the voting committee will have to ask the administrative governor to supply additional cards.

Article 44: A. The ballot box shall be of a unified type as approved by the interior minister with each box provided with three padlocks of different types with an opening for the ballot cards.

B. Before the beginning of voting, the head of the committee in charge of the box shall open the box before the attending candidates or their representatives to show them that it is empty. Each member of the voting committee will have to keep his own key to the box. Minutes in this regard shall be prepared and signed by the committee.

Article 45: Each voting center should provide at least one partition in a manner that will allow the audience see the voting process in the center. Each partition shall be provided with a list including the names of the candidates in that constituency, and with pencils to be used by the voters.

Article 46: A. When the voter arrives at the voting center and stands before the voting committee, and after the head of the voting committee makes sure that his name is listed in the center and checks his personal voting card, he shall mark his name on the list to indicate his presence, give him a voting card after signing it, and ask him to go to the partition to exercise his right of vote. No one is allowed to cast his vote unless he shows his personal voting card to the voting committee.

B. The voter should write the names of candidates he wants to elect on the ballot card and then place the card in the box. If the voter is illiterate, he or she has the right to ask the head of the committee to fill out the card, provided that after writing the names, the head of committee reads the names on the card in the presence of the voting committee.

Article 47: The voting committee can settle any protest over the voting procedure submitted by the candidates or their representatives as soon as it is submitted. The committee's decision on these protests is final.

Chapter VII [no Chapter Six as published]

The Process of the Completion of Balloting and the Announcement of Results

Article 48: A. Following the voting process, the voting committee should prepare a statement, which members of the voting committee should sign, as well as any attending candidates or their representatives who wish to sign. The statement should include:

1. The number of voters registered on the voting list in the voting center.
2. The number of voters who cast their votes.
3. The number of ballot cards handed to the voting committee.
4. The number of cards used in the voting, the number of cards that remained unused, and the number of cards destroyed and the reason for destroying them.

B. The statement mentioned in Paragraph A of this article, together with the unused cards must be placed on top of the voting box. They must be attached to the box with a knotted piece of cloth which is fixed with the voting committee's seal.

C. The committee must move the voting box with its three keys, the committee's seal, and the voters list to the constituency center. They must hand these in to the central committee against an official receipt signed by the central committee's chairman.

Article 49: A. Counting of votes shall be conducted under the supervision of the constituency's central committee, which can form sub-committees to help it in its tasks, including counting of votes, provided that each of these sub-committees should be chaired by a judge, an Islamic justice, or a government employee of grade 2 at least and made up of two other employees.

B. The central committee should appoint two, or more, clerks for each counting subcommittee to help in counting the votes won by each candidate.

C. Head and members of the counting subcommittee and the clerks must be sworn in before the central committee. They must pledge to carry out their task with complete honesty and integrity before they begin their work. Each candidate, or any one representing him who can present a letter to this effect signed by the administrative governor, has the right to attend the counting procedure. No one else is allowed to exercise this right.

Article 50: The ballot box is to be opened by members of the counting committee in the presence of the candidates or their representatives. In the event of any, or all, of the three keys of the voting box being lost, the chairman has the right to have the box opened in any way he deems appropriate. After the committee counts the number of cards inside the box, its chairman or any of its members must call out the names appearing on the voting card in a loud and clear voice that can be heard by those attending. The votes gained by each candidate must be registered, under the supervision of the counting committee, on two separate lists to be signed by the chairman and two members of the committee.

Article 51: If, after counting the votes in any voting box, it transpires that the number of ballot cards in it is 5 percent above or below than the number of voters who cast their ballots, votes from that box will be considered canceled and should be repeated on the following day, or the day after according to the date determined by the administrative governor.

Article 52: A. If a ballot card is found to contain more names of candidates than the number of deputies required, the extra names at the end of the card for each class of the constituency deputies should be omitted and

the rest of names are considered. If the card contains fewer than the required number of deputies, only the names written on the card should be considered.

B. If the voting card contains the name of a person not running for election, that name should be deleted and the rest of the names considered. If a candidate's name is repeated on the card, the name should be counted once only.

C. If the name of any candidate appearing on the voting card is illegible, but the voting card contains enough indications to suggest that that candidate's name is clearly meant, the name should be considered as referring to that candidate.

Article 53: A. Taking cognizance of the other cases in which a voting card is considered invalid according to the regulations of this law, ballot cards should be considered null and void in the following cases:

1. If the card is not stamped with the Ministry of Interior's stamp or the constituency's stamp, or if it is not signed by the voting committee chairman.
2. If the name of any candidate contained in the card is illegible.
3. If the card contains certain phrases.

B. The canceled cards must be added to the counting committee's statement. They must be signed by the committee after stating on each card the reason, or reasons, that it was regarded as invalid.

Article 54: The central committee can settle any protest submitted to it during the counting process. It should issue the decisions it deems suitable on these protests as soon as possible.

Article 55: A. After the counting of votes has been completed, each counting subcommittee shall prepare a statement in duplicate signed by the chairman and two committee members. The statement should include the following:

1. The number of registered voters in each voting center.
2. The number of those who cast ballots.
3. The number of votes each candidate obtained.
4. The number of ballot cards that have been used, not used, or were scrapped and why they were scrapped.
5. The number of ballot cards the counting committee has decided to accept or reject.

B. The statement mentioned in Paragraph A shall be attached to lists of voters with marks on the names of those who did cast their votes, in addition to the cards that have been used or not used in the counting process. All should be handed in immediately to the central committee.

Article 56: The central committee will be in charge of making a final count of votes for each candidate in each particular constituency. This count should be in public

and in the presence of the candidates or their representatives. The central committee shall prepare statements about the outcome of counting, copies of which along with all the committee's decisions as well as the ballot cards shall be sent to the Ministry of Interior to be kept for at least 6 months.

Article 57: Candidates with the largest number of votes are to be regarded as winners. However, if the number of votes are equal between two or more candidates for any single seat, the election will have to be repeated on a day fixed by the interior minister, provided the second election shall be held in not more than 7 days after the general election.

Article 58: The results of the general election shall be announced by the minister of interior as received from various central committees and within 2 days after the receipt of central committee's statements. The minister will issue each elected person a notification of his election, and the results will be published in the official gazette.

Article 59: Each voter has the right to contest the election of any House of Representatives member in a note to be submitted to the House General Secretariat within 15 days after election results in his constituency have been announced. The note should include a legal background for his contest.

Chapter VIII

Election Campaigns

Article 60: A. Campaigning for the election shall be free, but within the law, and can be carried out by a candidate from the time of nomination until the day preceding the election day, after which no campaigning is allowed under the penalties stipulated in this law.

B. Candidates are prohibited from holding election meetings or delivering election speeches at places of worship, educational institutes, and public government departments and institutions or those under government supervision.

Article 61: A. Candidates may issue advertisements and pamphlets containing their objectives and statements outlining their plans and programs, provided that they clearly bear their names. These advertisements, pamphlets, and statements will be exempted from any fees.

B. Government insignias or logos should not be used in election meetings, advertisements, and pamphlets or any type of writings, drawings, and pictures used for the election campaign, nor can loudspeakers mounted on vehicles be used in campaigning.

Article 62: Election advertisements, posters, or pamphlets, including pictures, drawings, and writings, are not to be plastered on walls and other places. Municipal and

village councils can assign certain areas for municipal and local councils can remove or for them. The posters at the expense of the candidates with any violating without having

Article 63: Election speeches, pamphlets, ments, and other campaign media should not, advertise-direct or indirect slander or defamation of C not carry any dates, nor should they stir sectarian, tribal, af other candi-feelings among the citizens. l, and regional

Article 64: Employees of the government institutions and local councils are prohibitednt or official paigning for any of the candidates. ted from cam-

Article 65: In campaigning for election, cand not offer gifts, donations, financial or in-kindidates shall to any individual or organization directly oind assistance third party for the purpose of influencing the or through a it is prohibited for any person to ask for she voting, and donations from the candidates. such gifts or

Chapter IX

Election-Related Crimes

Article 66: Court of first instance shall imp least 3 months and up to a maximum of 1 yearprison for at fines of not less than 200 dinars and not moear or impose dinars or both on any person committingore than 500 following: g any of the

A. Posing as or impersonating others in process. n the voting

B. Exercizing his or her right in voting more re than once.

C. Carrying firearms or any other dangerous v might endanger public safety and security at weapon that center during elections day. at any voting

D. Storming the voting or counting centers t the course of elections, delay elections, or cast to influence officials in charge of conducting them. ause harm to

E. Influencing the freedom of elections or in election process in any form. impeding the

F. Tampering with ballot boxes, lists of voter cards; stealing any of these lists and cardsrs, or voting them; or doing any thing with the objective of s; damaging ing elections or their secrecy. In such cases, thf undermin- persons in question will be issued the maximhe person or ment provided for in this article. num punish-

G. Committing a prohibited act as provic Articles 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, and 65 of this lavided for in aw.

Article 67: Any person or persons seizing or to seize by force any ballot boxes before vor attempting will be sentenced to at least 5 years and a maxote counting ximum of 10

years in prison with hard labor and will be fined at least 1,000 dinars and a maximum of 5,000 dinars. Other persons collaborating in the act in any form will receive the same sentence.

Article 68: A member of the committees appointed to regulate, prepare and check voters lists or oversee balloting and vote sorting and counting found guilty of the following offenses will be liable to a prison sentence of between 1 and 3 years, or a fine of between 500 and 1,000 dinars, or both:

A. Knowingly entering a person ineligible to vote under the articles of this law in any of the electoral lists or deliberately deleting or failing to enter a person eligible to vote under the articles of this law.

B. Knowingly entering false information in an application for candidacy, the announcement thereof, any of the items listed therein, the date of the application, or any of the statements or challenges submitted against the electoral lists or any other document to do with this law.

C. Illegal acquisition of any election document, concealing it, or committing any irregularity on it including its destruction or mutilation.

D. Delaying without reasonable grounds the balloting process, bringing it to a halt ahead of schedule, or slowing down any related procedure with a view to disrupting or delaying it.

E. Failing to open the ballot boxes in the presense of candidates or their representatives before the balloting begins to make certain they are empty.

I. Misreading the ballot paper so as to misrepresent its contents.

J. Failing to enforce any article of this law concerning the operation and procedures of balloting or vote sorting or breaching this law with the intention of manipulating the outcome of the polls.

Article 69: Punishment for initiating election-related crimes is determined according to articles of the penal code applicable in light of the law.

Article 70: Any other violation to the law which is not stated in this law is punishable by 1 to 3 months imprisonment or a fine of 50 to 200 dinars or both.

Article 71: All election crimes cited in this law will be dropped after the elapse of 6 months after the announcement of the election results.

Article 72: The Council of Ministers has the right to issue regulations for the implementation of the provisions of this law.

Article 73: The interior minister has the right to issue instructions for the implementation of the provisions of this law and the regulations issued according to it, provided that these instructions do not conflict with the provisions of the law or system of regulations in any way whatsoever.

Article 74: The House of Representatives election law No 24 for 1960 and its amendments as well as the regulations issued according to it are hereby repealed, but the procedures according to which the deputies of the present House of Representatives have been elected will continue to be valid and legal until the term of the House is terminated for any reason.

Article 75: The prime minister and ministers are entrusted with implementing this law.

Table of Constituencies and Seats Allocated for Each of Them in the House of Representatives

Article 1: To achieve the objectives of Article 21 of the House of Representatives electoral law, the Kingdom's constituencies for the purpose of elections to the House of Representatives shall be as shown in this table.

Article 2: Legislation governing administrative divisions and divisions of Greater Amman Municipality as decided by the municipal council shall be adopted in defining the area or areas included in every constituency.

I. Amman Governorate:

The first constituency. It includes the areas of Basman, Marka, and Tariq in the Greater Amman Municipality—three Muslim deputies.

The second constituency. It includes the areas of al-Yarmuk, al-Nasr, Ra's-al-'Ayn, and Badr in the Greater Amman Municipality—three Muslim deputies.

The third constituency. It includes the areas of city center, Zahran, and al-'Abdali in the Greater Amman Municipality—four Muslim deputies, including one Circassian or Chechen deputy, and one Christian deputy.

The fourth constituency. It includes the areas of al-Quwaysimah, al-Juwaydah, Abu-'Alandah, Khuraybat al-Suq, Jawa, al-Yadudah, Umm-Qusayr, and al-Muqabalayn in the Greater Amman Municipality, and the subdistricts of Sahab, al-Jizah, and al-Muwaqqar with the exception of the central Bedouin tribes—two Muslim deputies.

The fifth constituency. It includes the areas of Shafa Badran, Abu-Nusayr, al-Jubayhah, Suwaylih, Tila'-al-'Ali, Umm-al-Summaq, and Khilda in the Greater Amman Municipality, and the subdistricts of Wadi-al-Sir and Na'ur—five Muslim deputies, including one from the Circassians or Chechens.

The sixth constituency. It includes the district of Ma'daba and the subdistrict of Dhiban—two Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

II. Irbid Governorate:

The City of Irbid and the centers and areas directly linked to the center of the governorate—eight Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

Jarash District—two Muslim deputies.

'Ajlun District—two Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

Al-Ramtha District and Bani Kananah District—three Muslim deputies.

Al-Qurah District and the Northern Ghor [Jordan Valley] District—two Muslim deputies

III. Al-Balqa' Governorate—six Muslim deputies and two Christian deputies.

IV. Al-Karak Governorate—seven Muslim deputies and two Christian deputies.

V. Ma'an Governorate—five Muslim deputies.

VI. Al-Zarqa' Governorate—five Muslim deputies, including one Circassian or Chechen deputy, and one Christian deputy.

VII. Al-Mafraq Governorate—three Muslim deputies.

VIII. Al-Tafilah Governorate—three Muslim deputies.

IX. Bedouins:

North—two Muslim deputies.

Central—two Muslim deputies.

South—two Muslim deputies.

The Northern Bedouin tribes are the following: Bani-Khalid, al-Sirhan, al-'Is, al-Sardiyah, al-Masa'id, al-Sharafat, al-'Alamat, and al-Zubayd.

The Central Bedouins are the following Bani-Sakhr tribes: al-Ghabin, al-'Amir, al-Ka'abinah, Salit, al-Haqish, al-Khurshan, al-Jubur, al-Shar'ah, al-Badarin, al-Tayyibin, al-Hammad, al-Qudat, and al-Salim.

The Southern Bedouins are the following al-Huwaytat tribes: al-Mataliqah, al-Tawayihah, al-Sulaymaniyyin, al-Najadat, al-Nu'aymat, al-Mara'iyah, al-Zawayidah, al-Manna'in, al-Hajaya, Bani-'Atiyah, al-'Attun, al-Darawishah, al-Dammaniyah, al-Hidban, al-Batuniyah, al-Zalabiyah, al-Sa'diyyin, al-Rashayidah, al-'Ammarin, al-Ahyawat, al-Subayhiyyin, al-Sumayhiyyin, al-Rabai'ah, and al-Taqatiqah.

Paper Views Jordanians' Role in Elections

JN0507070089 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
5 Jul 89 p 4

[By Najwa Najjar and Ranya 'Atallah]

[Text] Amman—As Jordan slowly gears up for the resumption of parliamentary life, citizens look with cautious optimism to the first general elections in 22 years—expected to take place before the end of the year—as a reopening of one of the main venues of popular participation.

Jordanians, who over the past two decades experienced only a brief spell of four years of parliamentary life, are eager for a full return to parliamentary representation that would enable them to exercise their right to government.

Aspirations of Jordanians who were under the age of 18 when the last general elections were held in 1967, or those who are now in their 20s and have never had the chance to vote, remain focused on how they could participate in the country's affairs and on who represents their fears, concerns and demands in the Kingdom's decision-making process.

One Jordanian citizen summed up the national feeling. "Elections are a national and constitutional necessity whereby the people, through their elected representatives, can ensure that their concerns and problems as well as their aspirations reach the authorities, and that they are able to exercise their right to oversee the government and hold it accountable for its actions."

Little doubt exists among Jordanians that their right to participate in the Kingdom's decision-making process is clearly guaranteed in the Constitution.

"The nation is the source of authorities," reads article 24 of the 1952 Constitution, which vests the Kingdom's legislative power in both the King and bicameral parliament—the appointed Upper House (Senate) and the elected Lower House of representatives.

Nonetheless, ex-parliamentarians and lawyers say this constitutional right has been overshadowed by the 1986 election law. A number of its main provisions, they contend, violate the Constitution.

While amendments to the law are being studied by a legal committee of the Ministry of Interior, debate among ex-parliamentarians and lawyers remains focused on what they see as unproportional representation of citizens in some constituencies, inconsistency in constituency divisions, and the banning of candidates belonging to "illegal" political parties.

The 1986 law, which has not been tried out, is based on the 1960 election law with a few amendments which increased the House number of seats to 142, equally divided between the East and West Banks, and allocated one seat for each of the 11 Palestinian refugee camps in the East Bank.

The law was further amended by the government of Zayd al-Rifa'i in April this year. The amendments, which were passed in the absence of Parliament, reduced the number of seats to 72, abolishing West Bank representation in view of Jordan's decision to dismantle legal and administrative ties with the occupied territory in July 1988.

Further amendments to the law being considered will probably involve increasing the number of seats in certain areas, most notably, Amman, lowering of the voting age to 18 and doing away with the mandatory voting identification card.

The committee is also looking into the possibility of widening the constituencies whereby each of the Kingdom's eight governorates forms a separate constituency, and modifying candidacy eligibility conditions which, in their present form, prevent any individual belonging to an "illegal" political party from running for the elections.

The contentions that the representation system is unproportional and the calls for political parties and slates in elections are not necessarily shared by all ex-parliamentarians. Many of them say that the system in place in Jordan is the right one for the Kingdom and find little need for widening the constituencies or for allowing for political parties, per se, to take part in the election process.

However, those who agreed to talk to the JORDAN TIMES on the record strongly disagreed, and raised questions over many aspects of the provisions of the election law.

They contend that the distribution of constituencies is not based on pure demographic factors, but rather on sectarian, racial and tribal considerations, which, they say, violate the Constitution.

"The division of constituencies does not reflect the importance of political representation of the people, but furthers the interest of certain sides," according to former parliamentarian 'Abdallah al-'Aqayilah.

The Irbid Governorate, for example, is divided into six districts with a total number of 18 seats: two for the district of Bank Kananah, one for the district of al-Quwayrah, one for the North Ghor district, two for the Jerash district, three for the 'Ajlun District and eight for Irbid City.

According to Al-'Aqayilah, these smaller divisions allow for the continued domination of the political scene by tribal, sectarian, and ethnic considerations in elections at a sub-district level in the governorate.

Ratib al-Junaydi, a leading lawyer, supports Al-'Aqayilah view and says that one of the main pillars of parliamentary representation as stipulated in the Constitution calls on a parliamentarian to represent the whole nation rather than the interest of one voter or a group of voters.

The individual electoral system presently in place violates this principle, he says, "since nominees run only in their constituency, they are concerned primarily with the interest of the people they represent, and not with the interest of the nation as a whole." In this context, he says, having one list for the whole Kingdom would eliminate the problem. If that is not possible, constituencies should be drawn according to demographic features of the eight governorates.

Many others also believe that the number of seats allocated to some constituencies are not proportional to the number of inhabitants in those areas.

Another renowned lawyer, Ibrahim Bakr, argues that the principle of equality in the Constitution has not been adhered to the distribution of parliamentary seats.

"The number of parliamentary seats allocated to Amman and Al-Zarqa' is not proportional to the population density in these two governorates," says Bakr.

The governorate of Amman, which, according to 1986-1987 Department of Statistics figures, has a population of 1,203,000, had been allocated 19 seats while the city of Amman alone, with a population of 923,870, has been allocated seven seats.

According to Al-Junaydi, this means that one member of parliament represents every 130,000 people inside Amman while every 27,000 people are represented by one member in areas outside the capital.

The Al-Karak Governorate with a population of 124,220 has nine seats and the Ma'an Governorate with a population of 101,000 has been allocated five seats.

Both Bakr and Al-Junaydi stress that seat distribution in some areas of the Kingdom should be revised.

The strongest point of contention revolves around the Article 18H of the Electoral Law which prevents any candidate belonging to an "illegal political party" to run for elections. The article defines an "illegal" political party as any party or grouping with principles, aims and goals contradicting articles of the Constitution.

The Constitution grants Jordanians the right to establish political parties on condition that their goals be legitimate, their means peaceful and their charter not violate the electoral law. However, according to ex-parliamentarian from Al-Karak Iyyad al-Nawayisah, the security apparatus remains the deciding factor on what constitutes an illegal party.

"Only those who have obtained a certificate of good conduct from the security apparatus—candidates approved by the government—will be able to run," Al-Nawayisah says.

Since the constitution does not prohibit the formation of political parties, the government's right to refuse an application for the establishment of a political party without being contested in a higher court of justice "violates the right guaranteed by Article 16/2 of the Constitution to establish a political party," according to Bakr.

Former deputy Yusef Al-Athem agrees. "Let it be up to the people to decide who does or does not represent them, regardless of what a deputy's ideology is," Al-Athem says.

Election 'Values' Urged

JN0707081289 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
7 Jul 89 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Ambitions and Responsibilities Toward Elections"]

[Text] The Jordanian family has received with great satisfaction and true sense of responsibility the first substantial step toward return to parliamentary life—namely, the royal decree amending the electoral law and the prime minister's statement in this regard.

It is only natural that we look forward to the way the Jordanian family is going to translate this satisfaction during the period that precedes the elections—the period in which the Jordanian family practices the election process itself. It is no secret that the desired performance necessarily requires commitment to the ideals and values of the election process. This performance, therefore, should bolster our national unity and entrench the belief that diversity of opinion should not mean fragmentation, fanaticism, or slander. Rather, it is a fact of democracy that should be positively employed.

The desired performance should also take advantage of our history and draw on the experience of our family and the shining vision of the Great Arab Revolt. It should also be based on the correlation between the national and the pan-Arab responsibility. All these facts constitute the bases of the enlightened performance that will maintain the value of the election process and guarantee its sound practicing.

It should also be noted that the desired performance should be associated with creativity in presenting the appropriate solutions to the problems facing our family. Also, it should not fail to see the positive aspects and entrench them. Moreover, it should recognize that the real meaning of revision is not to level criticism for the sake of criticism, but to enhance the positive aspects wherever they exist and make corrections where this is required.

In light of this vision, it can be said that great responsibilities are now awaiting our family as regards the election process. These responsibilities involve both candidates and voters as well as those who support them. They are all called upon to be the model of responsible performance that rises above all negativity, gives parliamentary life its true sense, and reinforces the foundations of the democratic march of our nation. To sum up frankly, elections are the responsibility of us all, whether while preparing for them, during them, or after they have ended. We are the ones responsible for translating ambitions into the performance that realizes these ambitions. We are responsible, wherever we may be, for commitment to the values and ideals that are indispensable for the desired performance.

Columnist Says Bus Attack Result of Likud Policy

JN0707103489 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
7 Jul 89 p 18

["Arab Opinion" column by Mahmud al-Rimawi: "The Immediate Result of the Likud Conference"]

[Text] One cannot but pause to assess the (symbolic) dimension of the Israeli bus incident in which 14 Israelis were killed and 24 others were injured. Whether the incident was designed to happen in the way it did, or whether there was a plan to hold the passengers hostage in exchange for Palestinian detainees (more than 20,000 since the intifadah erupted), or whether there were other possibilities, it is certain that an Arab-Israeli fraction (between the Arab passenger and the Israeli driver) took place and led to the Israeli bus plunging into a steep valley. Where? On the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road, the road of the Israeli occupation (based in Tel Aviv) to the West Bank (Jerusalem being its capital). And when? Less than 20 hours after the Likud conference ended. In this conference, Shamir surrendered to the views of his more extremist rivals. He adopted their conditions and embedded them in his plan. These conditions are: Liquidating the intifadah before the elections, excluding the Arabs of Jerusalem from voting, and rejecting negotiations with the PLO. Shamir, the head of the Likud and the government, surrendered easily and willingly, as if he was telling his partymen in a loud voice: No matter how far you go, I will go even further. Some observers described this move, in line with Shamir's idol mentality, as a sacrifice of the government (coalition with the Labor Party) for the Likud. The unity inside the Likud will reflect in the form of divisions outside it; that is, in

the Israeli political society. After the proprietor of the plan retreated, Tel Aviv will have nothing left to use to mislead the world about its alleged peaceful inclinations.

Back to the incident of the bus (which went up in flames). This incident came as an immediate and violent response to the letter of extremism that the Likud conference came up with. Blind extremism, just like political malice, harms its advocates. Also, extremism quickly leads to extremism by the other side; it is like the blood that draws more blood. Certainly, when the Arab passenger approached the Israeli driver, the former was not thinking of his safety or of committing suicide. He was carrying a message to all passengers (inside and outside the bus) that says: "We either live together or die together." And because the Israelis, to date, have not understood the humanitarian language, this youth was forced to discontinue the bus trip (the bus of the Israeli occupation) and prevent it from arriving in Jerusalem. He absolutely prevented it from reaching Jerusalem as the bus was totally burnt along with its passengers. But as usual, the ruling Israeli team will receive the letter only in its reversed form, because this team is known for its movement against the facts. The Israelis will threaten revenge and tough punishment, overlooking the fact that this incident was an inevitable result of the policy of oppression and murder they have been perpetrating throughout the era of their racist occupation state. It is as though they were threatening repetition of what had happened.

The abyss of death in which the bus fell is the option produced by the Likud conference and the overall Israeli occupation policy, which denies the facts and threatens to involve everybody in a series of wars and conflicts with no visible end. The good alternative for all this is the withdrawal from the occupied territories (that is, return of the bus to Tel Aviv) and the establishment of a national entity for the sons of Palestine on their soil. This would end the aftermath of the conflict without the means of violence and warfare.

AL-RA'Y: Baker Statement 'Does Not Mean Much'

JN0907120089 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
9 Jul 89 p 22

["Every Day" column by Tariq Masarwah: "Speech Addressed to Palestinians"]

[Text] The U.S. secretary of state's statement that the Likud's reservations on Shamir's plan "will increase difficulties for the peace march" does not mean much, especially since the Israeli settlements were declared "illegal" in the days of Jimmy Carter and were then termed as "not contributing to establishing peace in the region."

In all cases, the United States has continued to provide funds for Israel—funds for its military force to continue occupying Palestinian people's territories along with

Lebanese and Syrian land, for building Israeli settlements, and for financing the ongoing repression unprecedented anywhere in the world, even in the Warsaw "ghettos" of World War II!

After our 20-year experience with U.S. deception, we have come to the shameful conclusion that the U.S.-Israeli alliance is a fact and that the U.S. policy in the region is the same as the Zionist expansionist policy. It is now time for our Palestinian brothers to enter the political game.

Henry Kissinger's wizardry had prevented the October War from being a liberation war, divided the allies in Cairo and Damascus, instigated the Iraqi Kurds to prevent Syria from relying on Iraqi military power, and aborted the partial oil embargo. Therefore, the Palestinians, who do not possess more than their intifadah [uprising], are required to study the bitter Arab experience with the United States and not be deceived by the magic of the U.S. magician. All the U.S. verbal promises do not achieve anything in the long run. In his well-known "shuttle diplomacy," Henry Kissinger always dispersed meaningless commitments.

The sole U.S. commitment is to the Israeli military occupation and aggression and to the creation of a hostile hegemonic military power in the region.

The Fatah congress will soon convene in Tunis. There are now those who call for making concessions in principle on the issue of establishing an independent Palestinian state. There are also those who call for starting from the elections in Shamir's plan, provided that specific U.S. guarantees and commitments are secured. This would be a means of giving the Americans a chance to amend the Zionist plan.

Our Palestinian brothers must open the files from 1973 through 1977 and read the bitter Arab experience because believers should not make the same mistake twice.

Prime Minister, U.S. Catholics Discuss Mideast

JN0807075689 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
8 Jul 89 p 3

[Text] Amman (PETRA)—Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir Thursday received Archbishop of Los Angeles Cardinal Roger Mahabi and the accompanying delegation and reviewed with them the latest developments in the Middle East and the best means for establishing a just and durable peace in the region. They also reviewed the situation in Lebanon and the efforts made by the tripartite Arab committee to ensure an end to the Lebanese crisis.

Cardinal Mahabi's visit to Jordan is part of a tour which will take them to Syria, the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim also received the Catholic Church delegation and reviewed with them the latest developments in the region, with main focus on the Palestine question.

Al-Qasim briefed the delegation on the efforts made by the Arab countries to find a peaceful settlement to the Middle East conflict.

He pointed out the positive stands adopted by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in its quest to find a just, comprehensive and durable peace in the region.

Al-Qasim noted that the PLO stands have received a large-scale international support, and have contributed to revitalising the efforts to find a solution to the Palestine question.

Al-Qasim voiced Jordan's appreciation for the support and attention the Catholic Church has shown for the sufferings of the Palestinian people under the Israeli occupation, and expressed hope that the communique to be issued by the Catholic Archbishops National Conference, which will be held in October, will support the legitimate Palestinian rights.

Crown Prince Hasan Addresses Expatriates Meeting
JN0807123089 Amman Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 8 Jul 89

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, has said that creativeness alone is not sufficient to achieve stability and progress in the absence of genuine establishments. Addressing the fifth Jordanian expatriates conference, the regent said a modern state is based on the solid foundations of developing establishments which are able to assimilate human creativity.

The crown prince said joint Arab action, which stumbled in the past, should find a new sound formula. For that, His Royal Highness added, came Jordan's drive under His Majesty the king to establish the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC]. His Royal Highness said Jordan should learn from past experiences to guarantee an appropriate climate for the ACC to achieve its goals.

The crown prince said the ACC is considered to be a step toward comprehensive Arab integration, which would reach the level of the European Economic Council by the year 2000.

Speaking about Jordan's current economic difficulties, the regent voiced hope that Jordan will overcome the crisis.

The regent paid tribute to Palestinian brethren in the occupied Arab territories for their sacrifices, adding that they proved through unity and organization they would be able to confront Israeli oppressive measures.

The 4-day gathering is aimed at strengthening the expatriates' relations with their homeland and promoting means of contacts with them at all levels.

Expatriates Support 'Honor Tax'
JN1107164089 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Amman—The fifth conference of Jordanians working abroad has announced absolute support for Jordan's course in shouldering its pan-Arab and historical responsibility concerning the Palestine question. The conference also voiced support for the national and pan-Arab motives that prompted Jordan, which abides by the pan-Arab responsibility, to highlight the Palestinian identity and reinforce the intifadah [uprising] by declaring the decision of administrative and legal disengagement with the West Bank. The conferees expressed their pride in the letter of designation addressed to his excellency the prime minister, particularly with regard to restoring parliamentary life in Jordan and reviewing the administrative organization. This came in the final statement of the conference issued at the final session held at the Culture Palace at the Al-Husayn Youth City at noon today under the chairmanship of Dr Jamal al-Budur, labor minister and chairman of the conference.

The conferees announced a number of resolutions to support the Jordanian economy. They decided that every Jordanian working abroad is committed to paying a national honor tax—\$50 annually—to the Central Bank of Jordan, to transferring no less than \$100 monthly to an account at one of the Jordanian banks, to transferring to one of the Jordanian banks the tuition fees in hard currency for sons and daughters studying at Jordanian community colleges and universities, and to transferring a minimum of \$100 monthly as expenses for each student.

The conferees urged expatriates to invest their money in economic projects in Jordan.

The conferees greeted the launching of the Arab Cooperation Council to promote common Arab action to an advanced stage of coordination among the four sisterly Arab states within a framework of cooperation to achieve an economic integration among them gradually. The conferees stressed that the establishing of the council is considered a step on the path of the greater Arab unity.

The conferees expressed support for Jordan's genuine positions in supporting sisterly Iraq in defending itself and its Arab nation. The conferees also expressed support for Jordan's effective contribution to the Arab efforts to safeguard sisterly Lebanon's Arabism and unity and continuous support for the efforts being exerted by the higher tripartite committee stemming from the emergency Arab summit in Casablanca to

tackle the Lebanese crisis and to restore this sisterly country's security and stability as well as its natural position in the Arab nation.

Agricultural Project Memo Signed With Australia
JN0907184989 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 9 Jul 89

[Text] The Jordanian and Australian Governments have signed a memorandum of understanding to contribute to the third phase of the Jordanian-Australian project to plant dry lands. According to the memorandum, the Australian government will provide a grant of 1.572 million Australian dollars to Jordan to cover the expenses of importing experts in the field of agricultural guidance, animal wealth, and administration of projects. The grant will also be used for the provision of agricultural materials such as seeds and insecticides, for conducting the necessary research, and for training the Jordanian personnel involved in the project.

The memorandum was signed by Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz and the Australian ambassador in Amman.

Dr Sami al-Sunna', secretary general of the Ministry of Agriculture, and Dr Safwan Tuqan, secretary general of the Ministry of Planning, were present.

Central Bank Deputy Governors Appointed
JN0307061689 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
3 Jul 89 pp 1, 19

[Excerpt] Amman—AL-DUSTUR—The Council of Ministers has decided to appoint Muhammad Salih al-Hurani and Dr Michel Martu as deputy governors of the Central Bank of Jordan for a 5-year period. [passage omitted]

Two Killed, Three Wounded in 'Old' Bomb Explosion
JN1007112289 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
10 Jul 89 p 3

[Excerpt] Irbid—Samiyah Turki Rashid, 5, and Muhsin Husayn Rashid, 16, were killed and Muhsin's sisters Amani, 6, Ilham, 11, and Iman, 13, were injured when an old deserted bomb, with which they were tampering, went off in the Martyr 'Azmi al-Mufti camp in the Irbid Governorate. [passage omitted]

'Mountain of Arab Anger' Claims Mecca Explosions
NC1107202289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1915 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] An organization thus far unknown which calls itself the Mountain of Arab Anger [Jabal al-Ghadab al-'Arabi], has claimed responsibility from Beirut for the two explosions that occurred in Mecca last night. The organization referred to another explosion in Jeddah on the western coast of Saudi Arabia. The organization explained in a statement that this action is a last warning to Al-Sa'ud, saying: If they persist in their treason, we shall settle accounts with them directly by physically liquidating them.

Further Report

NC1107155689 Paris AFP in English 1550 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Beirut, July 11 (AFP)—A previously unknown group, the Generation [as received] of Arab Anger, claimed responsibility here Tuesday for the deadly bomb explosions in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, and issued a threat to the Saudi royal family.

The group, in a typed Arabic message received by a Western news agency, said the blasts served as a "simple warning" to the ruling family, which it accused of having "betrayed and desecrated" Islam's holy places.

"If the Al Sa'ud family pursues its policy of treason, we shall settle accounts directly with its members, whom we shall liquidate," it warned.

The Generation of Arab Anger also claimed responsibility for an explosion in Jeddah, but there were no reports of an attack from the other Saudi city.

Two explosions late Monday rocked an area of Islam's holiest city, Mecca, near where more than 400 people were killed in July 1987 during a clash between Iranian pilgrims and Saudi security forces.

Saudi officials said one person was killed and 16 were wounded in the blasts.

Two Syrian Submarines Reported Along Coast
JN1107183389 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
10 Jul 89 p 1

[Text] Beirut—Highly informed military sources in Beirut told AL-QABAS that two Syrian submarines are permanently present in Lebanese territorial waters cruising along the coastline extending from Beirut harbor to the al-Batrun town in the north.

The sources noted that the reason for this Syrian presence is information to the effect that "the area might witness new developments at any moment." This necessitated the critical measure, although other sources said that "the presence of the Syrian submarines is needed to

cover the gunboats that accost ships heading for the harbors in the eastern area." These other sources added that the Syrian command received reliable reports saying that ships laden with arms and ammunition are about to enter the territorial waters heading for one of the eastern area ports.

Political observers in Beirut say that the Syrian submarines' participation in the naval blockade reflects the extent of the potential for crisis in the region, especially following the threat by parties close to the Lebanese Forces that the blockade cannot be broken except by force and their hinting that they do not at all rule out the possibility that a ship hoisting the Israeli flag or carrying Israeli goods may arrive at Juniyah port. This would prompt the Syrians to retreat to avoid contact with the Israelis.

However, sources of Lebanese parties close to Damascus told AL-QABAS that the Syrians have taken the recent naval measures in the full knowledge that confrontation with the Israeli navy is possible at any time, given the recent reports about visits to Israel by Lebanese Forces officials to coordinate on how to confront the next phase.

Air Force Planes Fly Over Capital, Coastline
NC1107144789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1415 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Today two Lebanese Air Force planes reconnoitered the Lebanese coast and territorial waters. The planes flew over the capital on their way back to base.

According to a military source, this was the first time Lebanese planes have flown over the capital since 14 March.

In another development, Syrian warships continued to sail along the line dividing Lebanese territorial waters and international waters. There have been no security reports to the effect that those warships have entered the Lebanese territorial waters, as had recently happened.

Syrian Shelling, Clashes With Army Reported
NC1207054189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0515 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Clashes have been raging between the Lebanese Army and opposite Syrian positions along the combat lines in Kayfun, Hill 888, and Suq al-Gharb since 0705. Artillery shells fell beyond the combat lines in Wadi Shahrur, al-Jumhur, the vicinity of the Defense Ministry, and the outskirts of B'abda and al-Hazimiyah. Bsus is also coming under antitank fire.

According to Red Cross sources, two wounded persons have been moved from Humal.

Between 2230 and 2300 last night, Syrian rocket launchers fired salvoes against the northern al-Matn coast, resulting in fires in the target area. The Syrian artillery stationed in the al-Nahdah playground in West Beirut and the north later attacked the Kasrawan coast at 2300.

In the meantime, clashes were raging along the lines in the old market area, the Sodeco, Primo, al-Barjawi, and the Jesuit school. Rockets and artillery fire were used in the clashes, with the rockets reaching as far as residential areas adjacent to the contact lines.

West Beirut security sources have reported that a number of shells landed in the military beach, Wadi Abu-Jamil, the sports area, and Bi'r Hasan, where one person was reportedly wounded.

Bombardment Resumes 12 Jul

NC1207073789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0715 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Syrian artillery emplacements in the mountain resumed their bombardment of residential areas in al-Hadath, B'abda, al-Hazimiyah, al-Yarzah, al-Fayyadiyah, and al-Jumhur at 0945 today. The Syrians extended their bombardment to central al-Matn, particularly the areas of al-Mukallis, al-Mansuriyah, and Monte Verde at 0955.

Army positions in Suq al-Gharb continue to be targets of shelling from Syrian positions in Bhamdun, Mutall Shimlan, and the hills of Shutrah, al-Radar, and 'Abd-al-Jalil.

Syrian bombardment of residential areas in southern al-Matn this morning injured citizens Faris Abu-Malhab and Barakat Barakat in Humal. The attacks on Suq al-Gharb injured four Lebanese Army personnel.

The Lebanese Army responded with accurate fire against the Syrian positions, scoring direct hits.

Shelling, Clashes Abate

NC1207083189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] The Syrian bombardment of residential areas in southern and central al-Matn subsided as of 1020 today. The clashes on the Suq al-Gharb front have also abated.

Clashes, Israeli Overflights Reported in South

NC1207083289 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Intermittent clashes have been taking place between the positions held by the national forces and those held by agent Lahd's militia on the Kafr Falus, Lib'a, and 'Ayn al-Mir lines this morning. The sound of rocket and machinegun fire can be heard in the vicinity of Sidon.

Meanwhile, a squadron of Israeli warplanes is now flying at low altitude in reconnaissance sorties over Sidon and the camps. A drone reconnaissance plane flew over the south earlier this morning.

Israeli Warplanes Fly Over Beirut 12 Jul

NC1207085089 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0845 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes overflew the capital at 1040 today, breaking the sound barrier.

Amal Source Says Reinforcements Brought to Beirut

NC1107170189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] In the context of the continued struggle between Amal and Hizballah, a responsible source in the Amal Movement has told the BAYRUT NEWS AGENCY that yesterday the movement received men and materiel from al-Biqa'. Approximately 400 men armed with light- and medium-caliber weapons have arrived in the southern suburb and al-Awza'i in trucks escorted by Syrian intelligence cars, according to the source.

The move, the source added, aims at effecting a military balance with Hizballah, which had recently brought in personnel from the south. The source mentioned that Nabih Birri may confer with Shaykh Shams al-Din while in Tehran.

Minister Reassured on Safety of Pilgrims

JN1207133589 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Damascus—Religious Trusts Minister 'Abd al-Majid Tarabulsi has been reassured about the health and safety of those Syrians who are performing their hajj rites in the holy lands. In a telephone conversation at dawn today with the chief of the Syrian hajj mission in Mecca, he learned that not one of the pilgrims was injured in the recent incidents in holy Mecca.

The chief of the hajj mission said that all Syrian pilgrims are safe and sound and in good health. He added that none were harmed. The chief of the mission also asked the religious trusts minister to convey to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad the good wishes of the Syrian pilgrims and their sincere prayers for His Excellency the president—as they leave to perform their hajj rites at the Mount of 'Arafat—so that God might crown his efforts with success and victory and protect him as an asset to the nation and the homeland.

INA Cites 'Secret Meeting' With Israel's Sharon

JN1107190589 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Brussels, 11 Jul (INA)—Informed diplomatic sources said here today a secret meeting was recently held between Zionist Industry Minister Ariel Sharon and an envoy of Hafiz al-Asad.

The sources said the meeting took place at the Ramada Hotel in the Belgian capital, Brussels, and lasted 2 hours.

The sources pointed out that the meeting falls within the framework of the suspicious contacts between Hafiz al-Asad's regime and the Zionist enemy to coordinate positions, especially toward the situation in Lebanon and the Palestine question.

Libya's Jallud Meets Prime Minister al-Zu'bi

JN0107161189 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Text] Damascus—Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi received at 1400 today Brother Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution in Libya. During the meeting, discussion revolved around the existing bilateral relations and means to promote them in various fields to consolidate bilateral cooperation and integration. They indicated the importance of exchanging visits and expertise in the interest of the two fraternal peoples and countries.

Departs Damascus 4 Jul

JN0407120289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 4 Jul 89

[Text] Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution command in the Libyan Jamahir-iyah, left Damascus at 1230 today following a visit of several days to Syria. Leading those bidding him farewell at Damascus International Airport was Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam. He was also seen off by leaders of Palestinian revolution factions and Libyan Liaison Bureau [embassy] charge d'affaires and members in Damascus.

AL-THAWRAH on Amal-Hizballah Meeting

JN0907073189 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0445 GMT 9 Jul 89

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AL-THAWRAH tackles in its editorial the reiteration of both the Amal Movement and Hizballah of their adherence to the articles contained in the Damascus agreement and their affirmation of the need to bring about further bilateral cohesion and cooperation and to take all measures that would prevent a recurrence of armed clashes between their elements.

AL-THAWRAH affirms that the importance of this positive step is not only derived from the essential elements emanating from the need to clear the atmosphere between the parties to the one nationalist front, but also from the pressing need to confront the conspiracy being carried out by the isolationist clique and to consolidate the nationalist ranks and bolster their ability to confront all forms and manifestations of this conspiracy, especially since the dimensions of the Israeli scheme have become exposed.

The paper adds: There is no doubt that the effect of the Amal-Hizballah agreement on the constants governing the nationalist action in the face of Israel and its agents in Lebanon on bolstering nationalist capabilities in the right direction constitutes a fatal blow to all those who are wagering on weakening the nationalist arena, on dissipating its energies, and on diverting its attention from confronting the destructive schemes being hatched by the isolationist clique with the aim of maintaining its factional privileges and its domination of the destiny of Lebanon—homeland and citizens.

Hatif-Led ANF Team Holds Talks in Damascus

Meets With PNF Delegates bat[Damascus TV]

JN0307183089 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] A round of talks was held this afternoon at the headquarters of the Progressive National Front [PNF] between a PNF delegation under Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, deputy head of the

front, and a delegation [ANF] led by 'Abdulion of the Afghan National Front tant president and head Rahim Hatif, Afghanistan's assistant talks was the Afghan head of the ANF. Also present at the ambassador in Damascus.

The sides reviewed the countries and discussed tasks of the two fronts in the two also looked into ways issues of common concern. They fronts. ys to further ties between the two

Dr Muhammad Zuhayr faction with the presence Mashariqah expressed his satisfaction and Afghanistan, undoubted state of relations between Syria further in their commending the need to advance them global peace. He also mentioned interests and in the interests of tion of the Afghan p commended the determined position targeting their sovereign people vis-a-vis the conspiracies reignity and independence.

The head of the Afghan apprised Syria's policy team, for his part, said he Hafiz al-Asad and its ties under His Excellency President support for Afghanistan.

The ANF delegation afternoon. Vice President flew into Damascus airport this ariqah, deputy head ident Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mash-Qannut and Fayiz Ismail of the PNF, and 'Abd-al-Ghani tral Command, were on hand to greet them.

Ba'th Official Meets Hatif

JN0507153989 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 5 Jul 89

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th al-Ahmar, assistant secretary received 'Abdul Rahim Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning head of the Afghan him Hatif, Afghan vice president and attended by Fayiz Ismail National Front. The meeting was National Front Central Command, and Afghanistan's ambassador in Damascus, 'Abdul Jalil Parshur.

During the meeting, the Arab Socialist Ba'th talks centered on relations between the Party and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the means of promoting them to serve the goals of the two friendly parties, schemes aimed at helping and to confront the suspect their independence and development.

Talks also centered on the Arab arena, especially on developments in Afghanistan and arena, Syria's role in the situation in the Lebanese ate the occupied territories helping the Lebanese people liberation, and realization of national accord among its sons reforms in the Lebanese Constitution.

Comrade al-Ahmar also affirmed Syria's support for the Afghan people for the national soil, finding the sake of the unity of the people and carrying out national reconciliation, which will provide ute to building their country with the opportunity to contribute to their country.

From his part, Mr Hatif praised relations with Syria and hoped for more development and progress under the leadership of the struggler, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. He conveyed his country's and party's appreciation of the positive role played by Syria to confront the Zionist and imperialist schemes and establish a just peace in the region.

Hatif Confers With Qaddurah

JN0507165989 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1415 GMT 5 Jul 89

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah received this morning Mr 'Abdul Rahim Hatif, Afghan vice president and head of the Afghan National Front. During the meeting, talks dealt with bilateral relations, some of which centered on parliamentary issues and some current issues and stands on them. Mr Qaddurah affirmed that Syria, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad stands by the Afghan people in their struggle for their rights.

Hatif Meets Other Officials

LD0807093689 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0433 GMT 8 Jul 89

[Text] Kabul, July 7 BAKHTAR—The delegation of the National Front of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA) headed by 'Abdul Rahim Hatif, vice-president and chairman of the National Front of the Republic of Afghanistan, while Jalil Parshur, Afghan ambassador in Damascus was present, met with 'Abdallah Muhammad, deputy chairman of Ba'th Arab Socialist Party and 'Abdul Qadir member of leadership for internal affairs and the speaker of the National Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic. They exchanged views on the situation around Afghanistan.

Hatif, during the talks spoke on the interferences of Pakistan, US, and Saudi Arabia in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan.

Besides, Hatif informed on the potential of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, solidarity of people with the party, social and government organizations as well as matters related to the defence of the country.

Joint Talks Conclude

JN0907164689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 9 Jul 89

[Text] Damascus—A final round of talks was held today at the Progressive National Front [PNF] Central Command's headquarters between the PNF side under Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president and PNF vice chairman; and the Afghan National Front delegation under 'Abdul Rahim Hatif, Afghan vice president and chairman of the Afghan National Front. The session was attended by the Afghan ambassador in Damascus.

During this session, the two sides continued their review of the relations between the two fronts and the fronts' role in the process of building and development and in the service of their peoples' general interests. The two sides also discussed the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas.

The two sides signed an agreement on friendship and cooperation.

'Abdul Rahim Hatif, head of the Afghan delegation, voiced his positive impressions of and great appreciation for the progress, development, and great achievements that he observed in Syria and for the great and important regional and international role played by Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. He also asserted his country's firm stand supporting and backing the just struggle waged by Syria and the Arab masses to liberate the occupied Arab territories and regain the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights.

Dr Mashariqah thanked the Afghan delegation for their friendly feeling toward Syria and for Afghanistan's support and backing for Arab issues. He also asserted Syria's position supporting the struggle of the Afghan people to solve their own problems without outside interference and to entrench peace and security in Afghanistan.

Afghan Delegation Departs 9 Jul

JN1007071989 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] The Afghan National Front delegation led by 'Abdul Rahim Hatif, Afghan vice president and chairman of the Afghan National Front, left Damascus yesterday. The delegation was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president and vice chairman of the Progressive National Front.

Turkish Foreign Minister Yilmaz Arrives in Damascus

JN0307123089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Damascus—Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz arrived in Damascus this morning on a visit to Syria. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' as well as Ghassan Rajab, People's Assembly member; the directors of the West Europe, Economic, and Protocol Desks at the Foreign Ministry; the Syrian ambassador to Turkey; and the Turkish ambassador in Damascus and Embassy staff.

In a statement to SANA, Yilmaz expressed his happiness at visiting Damascus. He said that during his visit he will hold talks with Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' focusing on bilateral relations in particular. He said Syria and Turkey are similar in history and in many other spheres. He said these elements will constitute positive grounds

and solid foundations for promoting bilateral relations. He said that promoting and consolidating ties not only serves the interests of the two countries, but stability and peace in the region as well.

Yilmaz explained that the visits exchanged between the two countries' prime ministers between 1986-1987 constituted a turning point in the Syrian-Turkish relations and greatly contributed toward promoting bilateral ties. He said: If I am to refer to the outcome of those exchanged visits, I can mention in this regard the two agreements signed between the two countries in security and economic cooperation fields. He added: Undoubtedly, the implementation of these two agreements will effectively contribute toward promoting bilateral relations.

Concluding his statement, Yilmaz said his current visit to Syria is also aimed at assessing what has so far been implemented from these two agreements, looking for new horizons for cooperation, and promoting bilateral relations on the basis of good-neighborliness.

Responding to questions posed by Turkish journalists accompanying Yilmaz, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' said: First, I would like to express on behalf of the Syrian Government our warm welcome to the Turkish foreign minister who accepted the invitation to visit Damascus.

Al-Shar' hoped that the two sides' talks in Damascus will again prove that relations between Syria and Turkey are cordial and that there is joint understanding toward the issues that will be discussed. Al-Shar' added: I am confident that the exchange of viewpoints will help us promote and consolidate bilateral relations in all fields.

Yilmaz is accompanied by an official delegation including a number of Turkish parliamentarians and officials.

Meets With Al-Shar', Others

JN0307190289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Damascus—A round of official talks was held this evening at the Foreign Ministry between the Arab Syrian side headed by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Turkish side headed by Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz. The talks were attended on the Syrian side by Assistant Foreign Minister Yusuf Shakkur; Syrian Ambassador in Ankara 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rifa'i; 'Adnan Nashshabah, director of the West Europe Desk; Walid al-Mu'allim, director of the Special Desk; Dr Tawfiq Sallum, director of the Economic Desk; and Dr Riyad Sayyaj, assistant director of the West Europe Desk.

On the Turkish side, talks were attended by (Togani Odshiri), assistant foreign minister for political affairs; Turkish Ambassador in Damascus Erhan Tuncel; (Najati Utkan), director of the Economic Department; (Sotaz

Onadi), director of the Middle East Department; (Muhammad 'Ali Shishlik), the minister's special adviser; and (Kamal Dayiryol), assistant Middle East Department director.

Talks centered on means of developing bilateral relations in all fields. They also discussed international events and current developments in the region.

Received by Al-Asad

JN0407192889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 4 Jul 89

[Text] At 1800 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Turkish Ambassador in Damascus Erhan Tuncel, and Syrian Ambassador in Ankara 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rifa'i.

Yilmaz conveyed to President al-Asad the greetings of Turkish President Kenan Evren and Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. President al-Asad asked the Turkish Foreign Minister to convey his greetings and well wishes to President Evren and Prime Minister Ozal.

The talks dealt with the situation in the region and bilateral relations. The Turkish foreign minister voiced satisfaction with the talks he has held with Syrian officials.

Departs Damascus 5 Jul

JN0507104589 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0940 GMT
5 Jul 89

[Text] Damascus, 5 Jul (SANA)—Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz left Damascus this morning, concluding a 3-day visit to Syria. Yilmaz was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', senior Foreign Ministry officials, the Syrian ambassador to Turkey, and the Turkish ambassador to Damascus.

Visit Termed 'Constructive'

JN0507165389 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 5 Jul 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Mr Yilmaz [Turkish foreign minister] declared in statement to the SANA correspondent before his departure that his visit to Syria was constructive and fruitful and had yielded good results.

He expressed his joy over having been received by President Hafiz al-Asad. He said: His excellency's reception is an honor to me. The talks included bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest to both countries. We found this meeting to be a good opportunity to become greatly informed on the recent developments dealing with Lebanon. We also informed Syrian officials of what is happening in our region.

He added: We held talks with Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. These talks took place in a cordial atmosphere and yielded good results. We evaluated the developments during the past 2 years between the 2 countries. We concluded that it is necessary to continue efforts to develop bilateral relations.

Mr Yilmaz pointed out that the talks dealt with studying joint projects, which will benefit both countries and clarify the bases of cooperation on these projects.

He said: We affirmed the necessity of continuing relations between officials in the two countries to take the form of periodic meetings and to hold discussions on the level of foreign ministers. We believe that the coming stage will witness new horizons of bilateral cooperation, starting in energy and gas. I will be happy to see Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' in Turkey at the earliest possible opportunity.

Concluding his statement, he expressed his great thanks for the hospitality and welcome he received during his visit to Syria.

Afghanistan

Nationwide Cease-Fire Declared for 12 Jul

Armed Forces Command Statement

LD1107173989 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Announcement of the Armed Forces High Command of the Republic of Afghanistan dated 11 July; read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: In accordance with radio address by esteemed Najibullah, the president of Afghanistan, to commanders of armed opposition groups inside the country and based on the profound respect for the religious duties of the people of Afghanistan and for the purpose of the passing of the auspicious days of 'Id al-Adha without anxiety, beginning at 0800 [0330 GMT] of the day of Arafah [12 July] a nationwide cease-fire throughout the territory of Afghanistan is declared. The Armed Forces High Command of the Republic of Afghanistan expects that, based on the matters enshrined in the aforementioned address and in consideration the strong demand of the people of Afghanistan for the cessation of war and the maintenance of peace, the opposition will engage in reciprocal action and observe the announced cease-fire.

The Armed Forces High Command of the Republic of Afghanistan announces to all armed opposition forces that if advanced notice is given to the local state authorities, the opposition will be permitted to visit their families and friends during the days of 'Id al-Adha and stay with their families during the 'Id days in a feeling of security.

The Armed Forces High Command of the Republic of Afghanistan assures the beloved compatriots that based on the legal right of defending the homeland and the life and property of the compatriots, it will respond resolutely to those who violate the cease-fire.

Fighting To Stop for 4 Days

BK1107113989 Hong Kong AFP in English
1132 GMT 11 Jul 89

[By Anil Penna]

[Excerpts] Kabul, July 11 (AFP)—The Najibullah government has proclaimed a unilateral ceasefire in fighting with mujahidin guerrillas to mark the Muslim pilgrimage season while calling on supporters to prepare for war with Pakistan.

A spokesman for the Soviet-backed government said the ceasefire announced in a radio broadcast late Monday would be valid for four days beginning Wednesday.

Although unilateral ceasefire announcements have been routine on Islamic religious occasions, observers noted that the latest offer came in the past, government believing itself to be in a position with the mujahidin. [passage omitted] of strength

The government spokesman said the presidential proclamation Monday asked mujahidin groups to overthrow the Kabul government for the past decade to join talks "without any prerequisites anywhere and at any level."

Government forces would observe a ceasefire Wednesday and stop a push towards the mujahidin stronghold of Tawar Kham, but would reserve the right to defend themselves if attacked, he said.

The ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan was meanwhile holding meetings at ministries, factories and other places Tuesday in an attempt to rally the population against alleged Pakistani aggression.

The government accused Pakistan late Monday of launching a full-fledged war against Afghanistan and reaffirmed its right to retaliate.

The Supreme Council for the Defence of the Homeland, headed by Mr. Najibullah, told the Armed Forces to remain on the alert and urged the population to rally around the government.

The Supreme Council said escalated rocketing of Afghan cities by the Pakistan-backed mujahidin amounted to a "full-fledged war launched by Pakistan." It said the rocket attacks were carried out with the "direct guidance of Pakistan."

(A Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Islamabad Monday that "no war is being planned by anyone in Pakistan against Afghanistan" and described the charge as "baseless.")

(In a statement Tuesday, a seven-party mujahidin alliance based in Pakistan denied responsibility for Monday's rocket attack on Kabul which left at least 20 dead. The rockets were "launched by the (Najibullah) regime itself to defame the mujahidin," the alliance said.)

The Supreme Council said "all the units and detachments of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan should be prepared for sacrificing for the defence of the homeland for frustrating foreign interference."

The council urged Afghans to "rally around the leadership of the Government of Afghanistan for the defence of the homeland and rebuffing aggression from Pakistan." The council appealed to the world and United Nations to pressure Pakistan to "give up its adventurous game which is threatening regional peace."

A government spokesman had earlier threatened retaliatory rocketing of Pakistan, a warning that was voiced again by the Supreme Council.

It said the government would take "all necessary measures and counter-acts for defending the country and in that case the (responsibility for) the sorrowful consequences will be borne by the Pakistani militarists." [passage omitted]

Najibullah's Address to Mujahidin

LD1107145589 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1630 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Address by President Najibullah to mujahidin commanders: date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate; praise be to God, the lord of the universe, peace and progress be upon Muhammad, the messenger of god, on his family and on all his companions. Fellow patriot brothers, commanders of the armed opposition forces! May God's peace and blessing be upon you. After 3 months today I want to speak to you, fellow patriot brothers, on the most important issue of the life: The end of war and the ensurance peace in the country.

During this period many changes have occurred, both domestically and internationally. Unfortunately, the war that should have ended, has intensified. New preparations for attacking cities and centers of a number of the country's provinces are being made each day under U.S., Pakistani, and Saudi Wahhabi auspices. You can see, however, that war is not a solution. Has had countless victims during the last 10 years and will cost heavily in lives in the future too. That is, it will cost more Afghan lives. As I have said in my previous speech, there are two courses of action facing the forces. One course is that all the Afghans, regardless of political, tribal, local, and regional connection, should talk and negotiate with each other to free the country and to free Afghans' national assets created during long years with hard work. This course should include safeguarding Afghanistan's independence and territorial integrity and seeking a peaceful solution to the issue. This direction embodies the interest of the war-torn nation of Afghanistan and deliverance of Afghanistan's people from fratricidal war.

This is a direction we inherited from our forefathers; it fully conforms with Afghan traditions and tenets of the sacred religion of Islam. Whenever there was a disagreement among a tribe or a family in the past, the elders and leaders would find a solution and would facilitate a compromise among the parties by holding traditional assemblies. Afghanistan tribes have included the Pashuns, Tajiks, Hazaras, Uzbeks, Turkmen, Baluchis, Pashaes, and other fraternal nationalities, are fully of such traditions. We think the time has now come for us to leave our previous disagreements and anger aside and to sit on a carpet of negotiation, move talks and hold

assemblies as our forefathers did. We will do this to seek a way to free the life of thousands of children, youth, and elderly people of his homeland.

You can see that there is no harm to any sides of talks and negotiation in this direction. We will talk with each other. We leave our disagreement aside. We will find a solution jointly and we will act accordingly. The very shortest direction to achieve peace is only this direction.

The second course is to continue war. In the situation where the Soviets have left our country, while the Jihad and struggle for freedom have lost their meaning, bases, and reason, unfortunately, people on both sides are killed. The economy of our common home, Afghanistan, is being destroyed; it is being weakened. The smoke and the fire deprive our compatriots' children and beloved ones of life. The seeds of disagreement, discord, and revenge are being sowed among those people who were praying in one mosque, drinking water from one source, living in one village, working in one land, and who were sharing each other's happiness and sadness.

As a result of the continuation of this destructive war, cultivation has stopped; factories, schools, and establishments cannot operate as before. Whenever the flame of war arises, the shortage of grains is felt. Our compatriot mothers' and sisters screams and cries reach the skies. Our young are being disabled, maimed and killed in the battlefields. Every day the immigrant brothers bury their beloved children. Our youths and children from both sides are killed.

This is the outcome of the war. It has no any other benefit to the people of Afghanistan. Have you not thought about this matter? Have you thought about who will remain in Afghanistan if the war continues? Based on the responsibility we have to the Afghan people, and based on the fact that the continuation of war will bring nothing but more graveyards, increase the number of the mothers who mourn their lost children, maim and disable more people, destroy more bridges, schools, and mosques, we should think independently and responsibly and seek ways to end the war. The continuation of war has no other reason or basis. It is not only we who say this, but Great God has also prevented mankind from killing their fellow religious Muslim brothers as well as from killing themselves. The 'ulema and propagandists of Islam have several time issued statements that the continuation of war where Muslims from both sides are killed is a great sin and deserving of punishment before God. Let us come and realize that and let us see the reason we should end war.

First it was said that that the reason for the war was the Soviets. It was said they came to Afghanistan and Afghanistan's people have to fight against them. The minute the Soviets leave Afghanistan the war will naturally end, they said. The opposition's and their patrons'

hue and cry as to why the Soviets were not leaving Afghanistan were heard everywhere. They said the Afghans should be left alone to better solve their problems.

We used all our efforts to open the path for the return of the Soviet forces and we did so. It has now been 5 months since the Soviets left Afghanistan. All those people who were saying that if the Soviets leave, then all the problems will be solved, now declare they will fight to the end. Their patrons also encourage the fratricidal war, the war in which Afghans are killing Afghans.

It is interesting that during those 10 years they were asking why the Soviet were interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs. Today they themselves shout from the United States that the future government of Afghanistan should be like this. The other group calls from Pakistan that the future government of Afghanistan should be like that. On the other hand, Saudi Arabia strives to bring to power its Wahhabis, who are favoring it. Finally, each side tries to bring to power the regime it favors. It is based on this design that the leaders of the seventh formations resort to create divisions, sections, and types inside the government that they created themselves. They argue among each other each day. Each wants to achieve power himself and to begin to tell the people of Afghanistan what to do.

I address you, proud nation of Afghanistan, you brothers, the commanders inside the country. I address you with a feeling of national responsibility, and with a belief that we have for the saying: Love your country as you love your religion. I speak with a belief in the fact that the historical mission of this sensitive and difficult stage of life is on our shoulders; behind all the adventurous plans of the leaders of the formations are hidden great unkind aims against our zealous nation and against the independence and territorial integrity of our country. You remember the plan to merge Afghanistan with Pakistan and you remember the frantic cries on issues such as, If my formation comes to power there will no need for visa or passport for Pakistani travel in Afghanistan [referring to Gulbuddin Hikmatyar's comment on confederation]; these were all heard from these tongues. At the moment, a number of the leaders of the formations supported by the U.S. and Pakistan want to continue the war to the last Afghan. Once they slaughter the proud and zealous nation of Afghans, they will put into practice the plan of a new strategic alliance with the participation of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, and Turkey in the interest of military, political, and economic goals. Once again join our nonaligned, neutral Afghanistan, with territorial integrity and independence and national sovereignty in the great deals against the national interest of Afghans. [sentence as heard] The continuation of war after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces is for this reason alone. The enemies of the Afghan people and a limited number of those who have sold out prefer dead bodies; they prefer Afghans dead in graveyards; they

prefer maimed and disabled people to live; brave, proud, and patriotic Afghans who can stand up as the highest peaks of mountains and resist the implementation of their separatist plans.

It is of no importance for them who, from which family, related to which party and formation, guilty or innocent, woman or man, old or young, is decimated. They just seek pride in the death of Afghans and dance of the dead bodies of Afghans. Their aim is only the elimination of Afghans and this nation, whose epics of brilliant anticolonial struggle, demonstrated in three Anglo-Afghan wars, still lives. It is for this purpose that deadly weapons, surface-to-surface rockets, are given by them to kill women, children, youths and the old. Unfortunately, some still do not know that by the continuation of such a war—that is in fact declared against the people of Afghanistan, and daily eliminates the children of this nation—they have become instruments in the hands of aliens, and that they work for the implementation of plans which are against the country and against the people.

I am fully confident that you, brothers, internal commanders, are fully aware of these plans. You have sufficient time to think, in a calm atmosphere, about the proposals of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, the resolutions and statements of the April Grand Assembly addressed to internal commanders, and at most importantly, about the sighs and screams of mothers, widows, orphans, and children without guardians who are tired of war, all of whom curse the war and warmongers. Make your decision independently. We see no reason for the continuation of fratricide, as this course cannot untangle any knot. If fighting could yield any result it would have done so over the past 10 years of fighting. It would have yielded results in Jalalabad, Khowst, Qandahar, Zabol, Laghman, Ghazni and other parts of the country. You yourself see that war and its continuation in present conditions has no result but the decimation of the heroic and brave Afghan nation.

Unfortunately, preparations for the intensification of war are being made by the heads of various formations. Once again I declare that in such a situation, only Afghanistan will be the loser. A large number of our dear children will be eliminated. Steps are being taken for the implementation of the enemies' plan, that is, the weakening and killing of Afghans by the hand of Afghans. If you do not want war against the people of the country, voice your objection. No one can stop your determination. Give up the continuation of war and its intensification, and put the course of peace and talks to the test.

Compatriot brothers, internal armed opposition commanders, who hear my voice. This is not my voice, it is the voice of your father, your brother, and your children. It is the voice of thousands of suffering mothers and thousands of broken and war-weary people in your homeland. It is your national, Afghan, and Islamic voice; it invites you to commence a life without war. We

propose talks and cease-fire. Some still say that they are not talking to the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, because this government has resorted to force and pressure. Even if we accept this foolish logic for a moment, the question of responsibility arises when those who oppose us are killing each other and when bloody clashes are taking place between them. When the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan declares a cease-fire from time to time, and people are killed as a result of its violation, who is responsible. Daily at least five to ten innocent children, women, and men are being killed by rockets daily. Every day the number of martyrs and disabled rises. Who is responsible? The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan proposes talks and dialogue and puts forward the cessation of war and a cease-fire. When in response the leaders of the [opposition] groups say no, and that they will continue the war, who is responsible for all this bloodshed?

It is in order to say that the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan is proposing peace and conciliation, regardless of settling scores and determining the guilty and (word indistinct). We believe that settling past scores will create new and bigger scores. Still it is not too late. Let us think responsibly about the future of Afghanistan and not about past scores. In a situation where villages have risen against villages with arms, when hostility and fratricide continue and when the people and nation of Afghanistan are being harmed, it is everyone's duty to prevent war and forget personal, group, party, local, and political interests for the sake of ensuring peace. It is everyone's duty to take the interests of the people and of our ancestral land into account and travel the path of peace and dialogue for the sake of preserving Afghanistan and to end the fratricidal war, which threaten us all equally with death.

Those who want to permit the fratricidal war to continue and our homeland suffer more, and who then come and declare themselves the savior of the Afghan nation are deeply mistaken. We have lost many opportunities to wait, to see and to consider the bloodshed of Afghan people, as a great sin before the Afghan nation. It is not now time to be a spectator and wait for the successful conclusion of war in favor of one of the parties.

As far as one can foretell events, if the war continues, then no one will win. The winners will be only those who give weapons to the Afghan people and who encourage Afghans to fight each other under various pretexts. The winners will be those who have prepared and implemented the plan for the disintegration of Afghanistan and negation of freedom and independence of the people of Afghanistan. [sentence as heard] However, the losers are unfortunately the nation of Afghanistan.

Armed compatriot commanders, look at the history of your homeland. Our people confronted many aggressors—from Alexander the Great to the expansionist Angrez—but the people of Afghanistan have always won.

The reason is that at those times the nation was one and united. The freedom-loving people of Afghanistan have always been at the trenches, defending the homeland.

Clergy and mullahs have always preached jihad against the invaders from their pulpits. All people, artisans, shopkeepers, merchants, farmers, and workers took part in the holy national jihad. Our brave women also fought by the side of the men for the sake of the country. Such is the historic account of the Afghan people's bravery and heroism. Regrettably, the Afghan nation is now torn apart. Group after group, under various titles, are in the hands of aliens. One is a group of seven, another a group of eight; one is a supporter of one foreign country, and another is the supporter of another foreign country. All try to seize power for themselves and their respected parties and formations, and continue war and bloodshed.

Reports are heard that they will stop fighting and will take part in a coalition government—but first the present government should step down. Let us realistically address this question. Hypothetically, if the present Government of the Republic of Afghanistan steps down, which formation and which force can alone control the situation—fundamentalists or moderates? There are four fundamentalist formations and there are three moderate formations. Every one of the heads of the seven formations tries to seize power for himself. On the other hand, the group of eight has also suffered the hardships of the 10-year war. They also want their share. The ex-king of Afghanistan and his supporters in Europe and the United States should also be taken into account.

You internal commanders, who have suffered for years while remaining in the country, have the right to have a considerable share in the government. Foreign countries—the United States, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, which are backing you—also want to obtain more power and a role in the formation of the government, and [word indistinct] it. There may well be other organizations which should be included in power. You notice that the stepping down of a party or an organization, division between one another do not solve the problems of the people of Afghanistan. On the contrary, compromise, unity, and the participation of all political parties, or an absolute majority of them, can and should untangle the complicated knot of the country's problems.

It is for this reason that the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan does not exclude any political party or organization, any individual who can be useful in the restoration of peace from participating in the broad-based coalition government. The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan has many times proposed the cessation of war. It has proposed comprehensive proposals of accession to power through peaceful means. The most recent realistic way was approved by the representatives of the people in the Grand Assembly of the month of Sawr [21 April-21 May].

The leaders of the groups are so much in love with power, and dream so much of ruling that even in their statements they openly reveal these hidden intentions. Why are you, brother armed opposition commanders, going to be sacrifice to their claims for power-seeking? All the proposals and promises I have made in my previous statements remain valid. Perhaps you are fully aware of the law of rights and privileges of the commanders and group leaders of the armed forces inside the country who join the policy of national reconciliation. On the basis of this law, internal commanders are members of society with full rights; their previous social rights are restored; their prisoners are pardoned; and commanders can take part in local and central power authority. They can implement the activity of their parties and organizations; create their local and central representations in the Republic of Afghanistan; activate the publicity and press of their organizations and parties; and in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Afghanistan and other laws of the republic, can engage in all political and social activity.

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Esteemed brothers, the of the people of Palestine. Continue war not for the Muslim for Islam, but for these leaders of the extremists con-deceive the people of Afghuslim people of Afghanistan, nor these attempts for the salselves and their families, and to why don't they cease war Afghanistan. If they are engaged in percent of Afghanistan's sake of the people of Afghanistan, From this 90 percent is against the people? They say 90 s territory is under their control. it could be estimated that 50

Armed commanders and group leaders inside Afghanistan, we have offered you the hand of fraternity, meetings, understanding, reconciliation, and the cessation of war. A number of our brothers have positively answered this demand of the people of Afghanistan. Talks and dialogue are continuing with a number of others. With the will of God they will very soon embark on eliminating the hostilities of the past, and will maintain peace in their localities. As the president of Afghanistan, responsible before the people of Afghanistan, with a national, Islamic, and Afghan voice I address you: Please put to the test the path of a peaceful life; create a live and powerful nation before the dangerous plans of the aliens. The rescue of Afghanistan from the continuation of war is in your hands. It is you who, through the cessation of war and the maintenance of security in your localities, can bring about the current of life in the veins of the war-weary human, can bring clear water in the canals, and green and freshness to the fields and villages.

The war has changed the face of the villages and districts of our country. It has eliminated a great many human beings. Every corner of the country is destroyed; voices of bereavement exist in every Afghan home. Do you hear these screams? Naturally you hear them. World War I lasted 4 years; World War II 5 years. Together they continued for 9 years. But for 11 years the flames of war engulfed our people. Material endowments of our country are destroyed. After 11 years of war you can test peace. The choice is yours. We are confident that at the end of every war is peace. The present war of our country will also reach its end—but at the price of victims who will bereave all Afghans for years. In that case, our weakened nation will be the scene of the influence of the alliance. Those who remain alive will not have the strength to defend independence, territorial integrity and national heritage, and will curse those who caused the war.

Let us sit shoulder to shoulder and resolve present differences through negotiation. Did not our forefathers have differences? They did. They also had the capability of sitting with one another to resolve matters of difference. We are their children and we should follow their way.

Brothers, let all of us join together and unitedly restore peace in our land; let us show the people of the world that Afghans can resolve their own problems without foreign interference. We have an honorable nation and gallant and brave people. The brave Afghan nation showed its resistance and steadfastness to the world in its Afghan-British wars. Seventy years have passed since our patriotic ancestors restored our political independence. Today, independence and territorial integrity are faced with serious danger from Pakistanis, Americans and Wahhabis [Saudi Arabians]. Let us first alleviate this danger and then engage ourselves in settling accounts, and search for who is to blame and who is not.

You notice that the heads of the formations have no regular political program on the prospects of socio-economic and political life to place before the Afghan people. Neither do they have a specific military plan. Even the hope of the Western supporters concerning the leaders of the formation ceases to exist. Right now the West is looking toward you. Consider yourselves, the internal commanders more authoritative. You know that some time ago Peter Tomsen, the U.S. representative extraordinary, was sent to the so-called interim government to iron out military programs and to coordinate the implementation of these programs. The formation heads decided to launch intensified attacks against Jalalabad, Khowst and Qandahar and on centers of some other provinces, including around Kabul. This is done on the encouragement of the U.S. and Pakistani militarists. You saw that the extremists mounted a new offensive in the city of Jalalabad on 4 July but through a Republic of Afghanistan Armed Forces counteroffensive not only was their offensive repulsed but the areas under their occupation also came under the control of the state

sovereignty. The Republic of Afghanistan government captured new positions. We regret that they do not reply to the call of national reconciliation and do not take into account the Republic of Afghanistan's peaceful proposals. Instead, they embark on the intensification of war. We regret the fact that in the fighting ordered by the supporters of the extremists, only Afghans die; our own home becomes a battlefield.

You notice no sooner had the Soviet Union forces left Afghanistan the programmed of attack on Jalalabad and other strategic parts of the country designed by Pakistan's intelligence was carried out.

It was envisioned by the plan that city of Jalalabad should be occupied and consequently attack on Kabul should be launched through Sarowbi or Jegdalak. Similarly, attacks from the southeast should also start when Khowst and consequently Gardeyz were occupied. As a result of staunch resistance and the defense conducted by the country's Armed Forces and due to the support and the people's backing, the extremists could not succeed in implementing Pakistan's military intelligence program. Both in Jalalabad and in Khowst heavy losses were inflicted on the invaders, especially over the past few days, heavy blows were inflicted on the extremists; all their schemes regarding the occupation of Jalalabad were smashed.

Extremists' defeats in various parts of the country have led to their frustration and their incompetence. Therefore, as a result of staunch defense by the country's armed forces and the heavy defeats, the notion of extremist occupation of this or that province no longer exists. On basis of the U.S. formula, military pressure is the matter at issue. This military pressure comprises launching rockets on residential areas. The extremists act in accordance with U.S. and Pakistani militarists' prescription, i.e., persistent military pressure on the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan; the extremists are wrong. In fact, launching rockets only occurs against civilians. Launching rockets on residential areas and cities does not determine the fate of the government; it puts an end to the life of innocent civilians, children, women, and the elder.

Many reports say that extremist armed groups under the pressure of Pakistani and Saudi Wahhabi advisers have the program of the intensification of rocket fire and launching on the capital and the area around and the Kabul. Therefore, vigorous warning is given that in case of the implementation of such programs the Republic of Afghanistan Armed Forces reply will be inevitable and crushing. We warn those commanders who are engaged in such activities that it will lead to the murder and slaughter of their compatriots; we ask them to use their right minds and not kill their Muslim brothers or destroy their country under the pressure and instruction by Pakistanis and Saudi Wahhabis.

We also previously warned that in case of the intensification of invasion against the Republic of Afghanistan, the continuation of attacks on the city of Jalalabad and other cities of the country, we will take advantage of our legitimate rights and bring the installations of the opponent Armed Forces under crushing rocket strikes in the territory of the arrangers and the instigators of the continuation of war in Afghanistan.

Once again we call on the extremists' instigators to abandon their subversive and provocative acts and to realize their responsibility concerning the implementation of the Geneva agreements, which are related to peace in the Republic of Afghanistan and around Afghanistan; otherwise, the responsibility of all its consequences will rest with them.

Recent information shows that irreconcilable opposition Armed Forces have totally associated themselves with Pakistani militarists, Saudi Wahhabis, and the United States. The extremist forces' supporters are those who impose and dictate their wills to the heads of the formations. How far can this treason against the national interest of the people of Afghanistan and working from up Pakistani and Saudi Wahhabis' and U.S. sleeves continue? The people of Afghanistan are determined to stop the criminals who have become means in the hands of the aliens and have embarked on the intensification of attacks on their command and want to annihilate their own country's people, on behalf of whom they claim to be fighting jihad.

The extremists' leaders who are under direct outside influence, and who assert, to weaken their nation, that they will embark on the intensification of rocket attacks on city centers, should know that with these thoughtless acts hurt the national interests, damage Afghan land and cause further Afghan victims. We call on all of them to think realistically and providently about the people and the national reconciliation of the land of Afghans. The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan will confidently defend its positions. But who will be killed in this war? The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan has fulfilled all its responsibilities to end war and to restore peace. Henceforth, the responsibility of the killing, the responsibility of and Afghan deaths will rest with those who have chosen the continuation of war as their slogan. If there was no way and the extremists persistently give the command to continue the war, then they could show one reason for the continuation of the war. [sentence as heard] We, on the other hand, have so far put forward tens of proposals to the other side, and have demanded the cessation of war in every one of the proposals. There are no more reasons to continue the war or to cause more Afghan victims, who are one another's brothers. The heads of the formations or parties should no longer give the orders to kill Afghans which come from Pakistan, in keeping with the wishes of the United States, Pakistan, and the Saudi Wahhabis.

You internal commanders can and should choose your course independently and without the influence of the heads of the formations, especially that in these days that 'Id al-Adha [13 July] is forthcoming and the war-weary people want to pass these auspicious days in peace and calm and want to attain to alleviate bad feelings. Not only is the continuation of war against the wish of the people but it also is in complete contravention of the tents of the Koran and the respectability of such days as these. In such days that God orders people for conciliation and peace and for benevolence and the removal of anger, you should also start work to end the war and to maintain contact and talks with the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan. We are prepared to take into consideration your views without any prerequisite and maintain understanding and negotiation with you instead of the continuation of war.

Beginning at 0800 [0030 GMT] on the day of Arafa [12 July], that is, 1 day before 'Id al-Adha—when the hajjis of the Islamic world bow their heads in pray for the cessation of war and for the maintenance of peace in the country—the units and companies of the Republic of Afghanistan are to observe a cease-fire throughout Afghanistan. The world's Muslims, who are engaged in the pilgrimage to the house of God, are sending curses to Satan by throwing stones. The first day of 'Id they perform; they run around the Ka'bah and go to Safa and Marwah and promise their God they will engaged in good deeds. During such auspicious days, we declare a cease-fire. It should not be a unilateral act, however. We hope it will be multilateral and immediately observed by all opposition armed forces.

The state of the Republic of Afghanistan, in support of an absolute majority of the people, is consistently pursuing the policy of national reconciliation. We once again invite all internal commanders and the opposition to put an end to the fratricidal war and to begin this vital and humane measure with a cease-fire, the cessation of all combat activities. I strongly believe, therefore, that for those to whom the interests of the people, the homeland, the dictates of the sacred religion of Islam, and the traditions and customs of the country are of value, once again will profoundly study the situation in the country and will take up a specific step toward national reconciliation. I believe those who respect the interests of the people of Afghanistan and the homeland will observe the cease-fire. Those who are opposed to this, meaning they who are obviously opposed to the interests of the people of Afghanistan and to the state of the Republic of Afghanistan, will have to choose against the legitimate defense and reciprocal (?actions).

This was a part of our proposals and ideas which I wanted once again to discuss with you esteemed brothers and draw your attention to the anti-homeland and Afghan nation plans. You could send your proposals and ideas through sending your representatives or through letters directly to the Presidency of Afghanistan. With observing all discretion and responsibility, we will study them.

I pray to Almighty God to guide us on the straight path, in which is hidden the welfare and prosperity of our beloved nation and the happiness of Almighty God and to bring about unity, fraternity, and accord among the Afghans. Success comes from God.

Government Accepts 'Arafat Mediation Offer
LD1007205489 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Statement by the Republic of Afghanistan Government—read by announcer]

[Text] Recently His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, head of the Palestinian State, expressed concern in the course of his tour of Pakistan regarding the continuation of the war and bloodshed in Afghanistan and displayed a readiness to mediate between the Republic of Afghanistan and the armed groups opposing the state for a cessation of war and the establishment of peace.

The PLO in general, and His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat in particular, have gained great credibility in the international community, in particular in the Nonaligned Movement and among Islamic countries due to their just and rightful struggle. In consideration of the strong, friendly links between the Muslim people of Afghanistan and Palestine and in consideration of the respect and esteem that His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat and the PLO enjoy among the people of Afghanistan, the president of Afghanistan expressed the agreement of the Republic of Afghanistan that His Excellency 'Arafat and esteemed Abu-Khalid, his special envoy who recently visited Kabul, play such a role. This attempt is in complete accord with the declared policy of the Republic of Afghanistan which welcomes every sort of constructive and peace-seeking effort by countries, organizations, and international personalities for the restoration of peace and tranquillity.

The Republic of Afghanistan expected that those who are claiming the claims of Islam, of righteousness, and of justice would welcome the invitation of a great personality of the world of Islam and an outstanding personality on the path of righteousness and justice and would give him the opportunity to embark on his efforts of goodwill for the cessation of war and bloodshed among the Afghans.

However, unfortunately, these individuals and their protectors who are at the same time the protectors of the Israeli Zionists too, gave a negative reply to the sound and realistic proposal of His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat and in an irresponsible manner considered that he lacks the authority and right to mediate. It is worth pointing out that the leaders of the so-called interim government, after holding urgent consultation with Peter Tomsen, the U.S. special envoy, expressed their opposition to the proposal of His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat with anger and increasing hostility and, in fact, followed the footsteps of others.

Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, head of the so-called government, and Peter Tomsen, the U.S. special envoy, reacted in almost identical insulting sentences and words to this plan of goodwill during a news conference in Peshawar on 2 July.

It is a matter of regret that the United States is not only not helping, but, by utilizing a variety of possibilities including the exertion of pressure on those opposing the state of Afghanistan, is preventing such a role by a third country and by peaceful countries, organizations, and personalities.

It is necessary to state here that a number of organizations included in the alliance of seven have consistently and for a long time now been discussing the political solution of the question of Afghanistan with the Republic of Afghanistan in different countries. We see such talks, either on an individual level or on the level of the alliance of seven, in the interest of peace and the cessation of war. But, whenever the question of talks reaches an official phase or the mass media, they immediately display an open negative reaction and (?reject) meetings and talks with the Republic of Afghanistan. If such artificial stands by a number of leaders of the groups continue, the Republic of Afghanistan will have to bring to the attention of the people of Afghanistan the status of the talks conducted with the groups and inform the people of the world so that the hypocritical face of a number of leaders of the organization is exposed. The passing of each day provides further proof that pursuing the path of military solution will have no other result but death and destruction in our country. Peace and victory for the Afghans can only be provided when all political forces of our society choose the path of negotiation and understanding based on Islamic and humane principles, when the people of Afghanistan are allowed the opportunity to choose their future path in a tranquil and secure atmosphere. It is beyond question that His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat wants to assist the people of Afghanistan in maintaining it. The Republic of Afghanistan warmly welcomes it.

Pakistani Charge Summoned To Hear Protests
LD1107181889 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul was summoned today at 1330 hours to the Foreign Ministry and the following points were made to him by the deputy and acting head of the First Political Directorate:

According to reliable reports from the country's security authorities the accurate statistics of the number of lethal rockets launched on the residential areas and cities by the extremist elements, which were undoubtedly supplied by the Pakistani Government, reached 106,682 rockets. These were fired on residential areas and public welfare institutions from 22 May to 9 July 1989 martyring 757 people and injuring 1,752 elders [as heard].

From the above figure 250 rockets were fired on residential regions of Kabul city during this period martyring 56 people and injuring 129 people. On 10 July alone 65 rockets were fired on the residential regions of Kabul martyring 18 persons and injuring 131 of our compatriots including women and children.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan strongly protests this shameful interference by the Pakistani authorities and their criminal accomplices. Peter Tomsen, George Bush's representative, the other day openly admitted to this by the delivery of lethal weapons to the extremist elements stationed on Pakistani territory. The Afghan Government issues a warning to the Government of Pakistan that in the event of the continuation of such interference, the Government of Afghanistan will embark on similar action and the dangerous consequences of such an action will be directed at the Government of Pakistan.

Envoy to India Warns of Attacks on Pakistan
BK1207095989 Hong Kong AFP in English
0947 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] New Delhi, July 12 (AFP)—Afghanistan's ambassador to India Wednesday [12 July] warned that the government in Kabul could resort to retaliatory strikes against Pakistan if Islamabad-backed rebels continued to rocket Afghan cities.

"If it (the shelling) continues it could put us in a position where we have to retaliate," Ambassador 'Abdul Samad Azhar said.

"Where... I think that is clear... aggression from the territory of Pakistan must stop or they will bear the consequences," he said when asked to identify what targets the Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah would chose if it did resort to attacking Pakistan.

"I hope we do not do that. I hope Pakistan stops the attacks," he added, saying that to date the government had not resorted to retaliatory strikes because "of our concern about a deterioration in the situation."

"The Afghan people are saying in demonstrations that those who send the rockets should taste them," Mr Azhar said.

The Najibullah government, which has several times warned that it could attack targets in Pakistan, said in a statement in Kabul last Monday that Pakistan was directly behind the rocketing by mujahidin rebels on major cities including Kabul, where some 50 civilians have died in the attacks in the past 10 days.

Mr Azhar did not say what weapons might be used, but it is generally assumed that he was referring to Soviet-supplied Scud-B missiles, which have in the past fallen in Pakistan territory.

He virtually ruled out possible strikes against Iran, which also supports the mujahidin resistance, saying that relations between the two countries were satisfactory and that he was hopeful the two countries would soon normalize relations.

Iran backs Shi'ite Muslim factions in the resistance, while Pakistan backs Sunni Muslims.

The envoy also repeated Soviet assurances that Moscow would "not remain indifferent" if the Najibullah government came under heavy attack in the eastern provinces from Pakistan-based mujahidin and strongly criticized the governments of U.S. President George Bush and Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for their continued military support of the rebels.

He described current peace efforts as "a one-way street" and scoffed at mujahidin demands that the Najibullah government, which the rebels brand a Soviet puppet, step down before peace talks can begin.

International peace initiatives from the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat have so far failed to produce any tangible result, he said.

Bangladesh

Passage of Constitution Amendment Bill Reported
BK1107021489 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Excerpt] The Jatiya Sangsad [Parliament] this evening unanimously passed the Constitution Ninth Amendment bill providing for election of the vice president. The bill also provides for simultaneous election to the offices of both the president and the vice president, limiting to two terms election of an individual for the office of the president and holding of elections every 5 years. The bill will be effective from the 1st March, 1989. Before the passage of the bill, the speaker [words indistinct] provisions in the bill. A total of 272 members voted and none against. This fulfills the provision of two-third majority required for the Constitution amendment. [passage omitted]

President Gives Assents to Bill
BK1107163389 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The president has given his assent to the Constitution ninth amendment bill 1989 passed by the Jatiya Sangsad [Parliament] yesterday.

Foreign Minister Departs on Visit to Pakistan
BK1107132389 Dhaka Overseas Service in English
1230 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud has gone to Pakistan for talks on matters relating to SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] and bilateral issues.

Earlier, he (?had) talks with the Nepalese leaders in Kathmandu yesterday.

Mr Anisul Islam Mahmud has already visited New Delhi and Colombo.

Ershad Leaves Dhaka for France 11 Jul
BK1207014989 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] President Ershad is now on his way to Paris on a 4-day official visit to France. The president, along with Begum Raushan Ershad, left Dhaka for the French capital at midnight last night. The vice president, the prime minister, ministers, the chiefs of three services, diplomats, and high civil and military officials were present at the airport to see him off. [passage indistinct]

India

Gandhi Leaves for France, Remarks on Sri Lanka
BK1207085589 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] The prime minister has said that while India is committed to the withdrawal of the PKF [Peacekeeping Force] from Sri Lanka, the devolution package promised to the Tamilians needs to be implemented properly. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was talking to newsmen at Delhi Airport before his departure for Paris on the first leg of his three-nation tour. He said only on the basis of the devolution package, the Tamilians in Sri Lanka gave up arms. The prime minister said that his special emissary, Mr B.G. Deshmukh, is carrying a letter to the Sri Lankan president, Mr Premadasa, with some suggestions. It is not in response to any ultimatum, but only to a letter from Mr Premadasa. Mr Gandhi said that the Sri Lankan president's letter did not carry any ultimatum.

In reply to a query, the prime minister said that his forthcoming visit to Islamabad is a short one. No agreement is possible on the Siachen issue which is too deep to be sorted out on such a short visit.

The prime minister said that the message of the French Revolution is relevant even today as at the global level we are seeing a lot of exploitation. He pointed out that the French Revolution, which is celebrating its bicentenary, was against oppression and exploitation.

The prime minister was seen off at the airport by his cabinet colleagues, several members of Parliament, and others.

Siachen Talks With Pakistani Army Delegation End
BK1107125989 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The army delegations of India and Pakistan ended their 2-day talks on Siachen in New Delhi today. The Defense Ministry sources told our correspondent that the talks were cordial. The two delegations would now report back to their governments.

Earlier, the Pakistani delegation led by Lieutenant General Imtiaz Warriach, director general joint staff, called on the defense secretary, Mr Naresh Chandra. The Pakistan ambassador, Mr Niaz A. Naik, was present.

The Indian delegation at the talks was led by the director general of military operations, Lieutenant General V.K. Singh.

Emissary To Deliver Gandhi Letter to Premadasa
BK1107155789 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The principal secretary to the prime minister, Mr B.G. Deshmukh, is flying to Colombo tomorrow as a special emissary. This was disclosed by a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi today. He said Mr Deshmukh will be carrying a letter from the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, to the president, Mr Premadasa.

When asked to comment on the LTTE's [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] offer for talks without precondition, the spokesman said that the LTTE had made such offers on earlier occasions also. The Government of India has taken note carefully of what they have said and it has an open mind on the subject.

Departs for Colombo

BK1207064889 Hong Kong AFP in English 0627 GMT
12 Jul 89

[Text] New Delhi, July 12 (AFP)—A special envoy of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi left here for Colombo early Wednesday to meet Sri Lankan President Premadasa and try to resolve the deadlock over the withdrawal of Indian troops from the island nation, officials said.

The envoy, Mr. Gandhi's principal Secretary B.G. Deshmukh, was accompanied by external affairs joint secretary in charge of Sri Lanka, Kuldip Sahdev.

He had been charged with trying to initiate a dialogue on the time frame for an Indian troop withdrawal from Sri Lanka, a government spokesman said.

The spokesman said Mr. Desmukh was carrying a letter from Mr. Gandhi, who was to leave for Paris later Wednesday on the first leg of a three-nation tour that will also take him to the Soviet Union and Pakistan. [passage omitted]

Mr. Deshmukh had been originally scheduled to leave for Paris with Mr. Gandhi.

Union Cabinet, Portfolios Reshuffled 4 Jul
BK0407074089 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0630 GMT 4 Jul 89

[Text] There has been a minor reshuffle in the union cabinet. Five deputy ministers have been elevated as ministers of state. They are Mr Mahavir Prasad, Dr D.L. Baitha, Mr P. Namgyal, Mr R.K. Malaviya, and Mrs Sumati Oraon. At a simple ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan this morning, the president, Mr R. Venkataraman, administered the oath of office and secrecy to them. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and a number of his cabinet colleagues were present at the swearing-in function.

Portfolios of some ministers have also been changed. Dr D.L. Baitha will be the new minister of state for defense production in place of Mr Chintamani Panigrahi, who was appointed governor of Manipur 2 days ago.

Mr Mahavir Prasad will be the minister of state for mines, in the Steel and Mines Ministry.

Mr P. Namgyal will be new minister of state for chemicals and petro-chemicals besides the portfolio of parliamentary affairs.

Mr R.K. Malaviya, who was the deputy minister for labor and parliamentary affairs, has been elevated as the minister of state for parliamentary affairs and labor.

Mrs Sumati Oraon will be the new minister of state for environment and forests.

Mr Gridhar Gomango has been given independent charge of the communications. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had taken over the communications portfolio, following the death of Mr Bir Bahadur Singh last month.

Mr Rafique Alam, who was the minister of state for textiles, has been shifted to Health Ministry and given independent charge.

Mr Ram Niwas Mirdha, who was given the temporary charge of the Health Ministry will now be in charge of the Textile Ministry only. The minister of state for health, Ms Saroj Khaparde, has been shifted to the Textiles Ministry.

The minister of state for parliamentary affairs, Mr M.N. Jacob, has been given independent charge of water resources.

Mrs Krishna Sahi, who was the minister of state for water resources will now be the minister of state for culture in the Human Resource Development Ministry.

Spokesman on Government Chemical Exports Policy
BK1107164489 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network
in English 1600 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] India was working toward a comprehensive treaty which would lead to a ban on chemical weapons. At the same time, India is against a partial ban or any ad hoc arrangement for banning the export of chemicals, as it would be discriminatory and may hurt our chemical industry. This was stated in New Delhi today by an official spokesman. He noted that the U.S. was appreciative of India's role in the Paris talks on chemical weapons.

Answering questions on the return of a ship carrying thionyl chloride exported by an Indian firm, the spokesman clarified that the government was not involved at all as there was no ban on the export of this chemical in India.

Paper Assesses Relations With United States
BK1007081989 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS
in English 3 Jul 89 p 8

[Editorial: "The Lesson"]

[Text] Indian diplomacy has taken a hard knock in Washington. The most plausible explanation of the close shave India has had in the US House of Representatives when it voted on an amendment censuring it for its action in Punjab and its Nepal policy, is clearly the failure of the Indian mission in the American capital to keep Congressmen fully informed of the issues at stake in these cases. The amendment sought to make development aid to India conditional on a certification by President Bush that it had made significant progress in reducing "human rights abuses" in Punjab and has ended the blockade of Nepal. That the aid in question was a piffling 25 million dollars is beside the point. What must make South Block [External Affairs Ministry] sit up and think is why the amendment was rejected by the narrowest of margins, i.e. 212 to 203 votes. The amendment was introduced on June 20 and came up for vote on June 30. There was thus time enough for the Indian Embassy to lobby hard to put matters in perspective on Capitol Hill. The fact that the State Department was critical of the amendment seems to have lulled the embassy officials into complacency. This was all the more deplorable because the climate of opinion at the moment is far from being adverse from New Delhi's point of view. The vote came, for instance, at the very moment when the Defence Minister, Mr K.C. Pant's talks with the crusty US defence establishment seem to

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[Text] The king
arrived in New
country. He was
affairs minister,
stay the king will
with the prime m
and the commerc
of Bhutan, Jigme Singye Wangchuck,
Delhi today on a 4-day visit to the
received at the airport by the external
Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao. During his
call on the president and will have talks
minister, the external affairs minister,
ce minister on bilateral matters.

3 Policemen Killed, 4 Injured in Assam Bomb Blast

BK1107145989 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1430 GMT 11 Jun 89

[Text] In Assam, three policemen were killed on the spot and four others seriously injured when a powerful bomb exploded under a police jeep this afternoon in Kokrajhar District. The three killed include two subinspectors and the driver of the jeep. The blast is suspected to be the handy work of the Bodo miscreants.

Iran

Khamene'i Addresses Seminary Students 11 Jul

LD1107132189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Lecturers, religious teachers, 'ulema, a number of Afghan, Indian, and Pakistani seminary students, the supervisory delegation of the affairs of the Mashhad seminary and a large number of students of that seminary, along with the Friday prayers leaders from the province of Khorasan, this morning met with his eminence, Ayatollah Khamene'i, and vowed allegiance to him.

In this meeting, interspersed with slogans expressing loyalty and obedience to the commands of the esteemed leader, Hojjat ol-Eslam Va'ez Tabbasi, representative of the vali-ye faqih [jurisconsult vice regency], custodian of the holy shrine of the Imam Reza, and official in charge of the Mashhad seminary, during brief remarks, expressed condolences to His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i on the occasion of the demise of the imam of the ummah and said: We consider you the vali-ye amr [vice-regent] of the Muslims and we stretch our hands in allegiance to that respected leader, and we shall obey your commands with all our hands and minds.

Next, the leader of our country returned condolences for the angelic passing of the Imam Khomeyni, the late leader of the world of Islam, and by stressing the importance, sensitivity, and exceptional nature of the duties of the 'ulema and clergymen at this juncture in time, graciously stated: The management of a system and nation and the building and nurturing of a (?complex) on the basis of Islam is a highly complicated and difficult task, for which our Islamic 'ulema are responsible; and the responsibility of defending the global reputation of Islam and the regulation of the governmental system of Islam rests on their shoulders.

The leader of the Islamic revolution, explaining that the strong and good functioning of the Islamic Republic will render Islam as a whole stronger and more respected, said: From the viewpoint of foreign observers, Islamic Iran is, in reality, the banner-carrier and manifestation of Islam and its visible outward appearance. If we are

unable—with the realization of Islamic laws—to establish social justice and Islamic ethics and regulate human relations in a fine manner, then the world will judge that this has been a failure for Islam.

Continuing, the leader of the Muslims of the world referred to the extensive tendencies in the world toward wanting to learn about Islam, and, explaining that the Islamic revolution granted Muslims pride, added: From the start, we entered the arena of struggle in order to perform our duties, and now, because of our belief, jihad, sincerity, and the earnest deeds of the people and God's grace, we have reached a stage where Islam and the Koran have become dear and dominant, and Muslims have found a spiritual elevation, and from the remotest points of Africa to the heart of Europe and other regions of the world, Muslims are proud that they are Muslims.

Stressing the necessity for increasing development and organization of seminaries on the basis of the traditional *javaheri fiqh* [religious jurisprudence], he graciously said in connection with political and moral awareness: *Javaheri* [theologian, author] jurisprudence is the manifestation of a jurisconsult who is a follower of the conditions tied to the practice of being a jurisconsult and to fundamental and legal principles, who is never afraid of prevalent values of jurisprudence. Our traditional jurisprudence speaks for itself, and in so far as it is based on *ejtihad* [the practice of passing judgment on a point of religious law], it replies to the problems and difficulties which may be faced in reality. He referred to the importance of the rise of political awareness in the seminaries, and addressed those present, saying: Even if you are the most learned from among the 'ulema, if you do not understand the times in which you live or know what the tricks of arrogance or problems of society consist of, then you cannot be useful to your Islamic society. Knowledge and recognition of the times is necessary for an 'alim [religious scholar] at every level, and the lack of the 'ulema's awareness regarding what is happening in the world, in the course of the history of Shi'ism, notably during the past 200 years, has given rise to great problems, and a heavy blow has been delivered from this quarter.

The leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at the conclusion of his remarks, said that it was heart-warming to see that lecturers, teachers, and senior 'ulema and prominent figures and numerous forces [as heard] in the Mashhad seminary were present, and emphasized that they should make greater efforts to acquire knowledge.

Majlis Foreign Policy Committee's Hajj Statement
NC1007061989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] The Foreign Policy Committee of the Majlis has issued a statement condemning the crime perpetrated by the rulers of Hejaz in which hundreds of pilgrims to the house of God were martyred. In the statement, the

Majlis Foreign Policy Committee, while condemning this great crime in Islamic history, expresses its deep regret over this deplorable calamity and its sincere sympathy to the families and relatives of the holy Mecca martyrs. The statement also says that the continuation of anti-Islamic and inhuman policies of the Al-Sa'ud family to prevent the entry of Iranian pilgrims into holy Mecca is nothing but treachery to Islam and service to world arrogance and Zionism, with the sole objective of weakening the united ranks of the Muslims.

Leadership Statement

LD1107115889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] The great leader's office has issued a statement announcing that the crime committed by the Saudi rulers in exploding two bombs in the holy city of Mecca is in line with the policy of global arrogance to violate the sanctity of Islamic shrines and to prevent the spread of Abraham's message of pilgrimage and genuine Muhammadan Islam. The text of the statement is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. According to reports received, last night agents of the United States and Zionism once again violated the sanctity of divine sanctuary by exploding two bombs in the holy city of Mecca, covering a number of pilgrims of the holy sanctuary in dust and blood.

No doubt this crime has been committed by the Saudi rulers, in line with the policy of global arrogance to violate the sanctity of Islamic shrines and to prevent the spread of Abraham's message of pilgrimage and genuine Muhammadan Islam. Two years ago the Saudi government, at the same time and in this same holy place, fired on the pilgrims of the house of God, on the bloody Friday of Mecca, demonstrating that it is not bound or retrained by any ideological belief when it decides to violate the sanctity of the divine sanctuary; and it has become clear today that the government of Saudi Arabia, in order to achieve its political objectives, is even prepared to explode bombs in the midst of pilgrims to God's house so as to silence their cry of disavowal from the infidels and to justify the police presence in the two holy places.

This stupid action by the Saudi government is indicative of the weakness and despondency of the U.S. agents and American-style Islam. This is just like before when the Saudi government's predecessor, that is, the U.S. regime of the annihilated Shah too, by resorting to the tragedy of the bloody Friday, the massacre of the congregational mosque in Kerman, and burning of the Rex movie theater in Abadan, could not ultimately save itself from the whirlpool which it had created around itself. Condemning this crime, we recommend that the pilgrims of

the two holy places should observe patience and tolerance and perform their hajj rituals correctly and properly. We also invite the world's Muslims to become more aware and vigilant in the face of Zionist and imperialist conspiracies.

[Signed] The Office of the Leadership of the Islamic Revolution

[Dated] 11 July 1989

Foreign Ministry Statement

LD1107122389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Foreign Ministry statement]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The incident of two explosions in holy Mecca, at a time when the Muslims of the world have gathered in this city to perform the religious-political hajj rituals and announce their disavowal of blasphemy and the infidels, has deeply distressed and worried world Muslims. This incident, which has been committed by the United States and its agents in the region, once again demonstrated the anger of the enemies of Islam and the Muslims in the face of their unity and multitude.

Although the Iranian Muslims, eager to visit the holy house of God, unfortunately could not attend this great gathering of Muslim unity and the scene of disavowal of blasphemy and the infidels this year, just like last year, thanks to the anti-Islamic intentions of the Saudi government, their hearts, just like those of other Muslims of the world, are with these religious-political rituals. The Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] believes that last night's incident in Mecca is in line with the armed police attack on the pilgrims of the holy sanctuary 2 years ago, which martyred 400 and wounded a large number of guests of God's house; and in view of similarity of the objective pursued by these two crimes, that is, to violate the sanctity and safety of the divine sanctuary, demands its condemnation by all Muslims of the world.

The IRI draws the attention of world Muslims to the need for joint efforts by the Islamic countries to safeguarded the security and sanctity of the divine sanctuary and calls upon the Muslim pilgrims of the holy house of God, who are in Mecca right now, to maintain their unity and, while announcing their hatred against the joint plot of Islam's enemies, make their cry of disavowal of blasphemy and arrogance in the divine place louder than before.

[Signed] The Foreign Ministry of the IRI

Commentary on Mecca Explosions

LD1107135489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The unforgiveable crime, the detonation of two bombs in Mecca, which occurred yesterday, made a great impact in political and media circles in Iran and the rest of the world.

The explosions, on the anniversary of the bloody Mecca tragedy, and in God's safe house, in places where no harm would have come to the Saudi government, have raised a number of questions, each of which could be construed as possible motives in the perpetration of this fresh crime.

What can be said with certainty about the perpetrators of this fresh crime is that they are those who 2 years ago violated the sanctity of the shrine and killed or wounded hundreds of pilgrims to the house of God. Those who planned that great crime that day and, in front of hundreds of shocked pilgrims, committed it, are not incapable of causing two clandestine explosions in holy Mecca. Since the planners and perpetrators of that horrific crime are well known, finding the criminals who violated the sanctity of the shrine yesterday will not be difficult. In Islamic jurisprudence, God's safe house, holy Mecca, is immune to such criminal acts. All Muslims are familiar with these rulings. Therefore there is no room for doubt about the identity of the main perpetrators of these crimes. Such crimes are committed by those who are strangers to Islam, whose aim is the destruction of Islam and Muslims; those who oppose Islamic ideology and culture, who regard its destruction as their main mission; regimes which are standard-bearers of U.S.-style Islam, who mock the sanctity of God's house, as stated by Islam, who believe that the United States and Israel should be held sacred by Muslims. Those regimes who are estranged from Muslim nations believe that the slogans "Death to America" and "Death to Israel" call for their death. As they have shown in their deeds, to safeguard the sanctity of their masters, they easily violate the sanctity of the shrine.

The motives behind this crime are as follows:

1. The conspiracy was hatched by U.S. agents and Saudi rulers to free themselves from propaganda pressure because of their banning some pilgrims, particularly Iranian pilgrims.
2. To give the impression that supporters of the Islamic Republic of Iran have committed this crime.
3. To justify the atmosphere of suppression and repression which the Saudi regime has created in Mecca.
4. To prevent the disavowal of the pagans demonstrations, which is synonymous with the slogans "Death to America" and "Death to Israel," especially as, despite the horrific tragedy of the massacre of pilgrims 2 years ago, the demonstrations were staged in a more limited way last year.

5. To find an excuse to increase the suppression and repression of pilgrims from throughout the world.

6. To tell Muslims of the world that U.S., Israeli, and Arab reaction would not shrink from violating the house of God, and so as to prevent the true hajj ceremonies from being carried out, they are prepared to cause tragic incidents in God's safe house, not once, but dozens of times.

Such cursed motives behind the two bomb explosions in Mecca, which is similar to the bloody tragedy of 2 years ago, once again violated the sanctity of God's house and killed or injured a number of Muslims. As Imam Khomeini said: Those whose hands are tainted with such crimes cannot clean them, even with holy water.

While the Muslims world has awakened during the 10 years since the victory of the Islamic revolution, U.S., Israeli, and Arab reaction—those founders of American-style Islam—have continued their fruitless war against pure Muhammadan Islam. But this war has increased the anger of Muslims against them, and further weakened the foundations of the ignorance of contemporary Abi Sufyans, Abi Lahabs and Abi Ja'ls [people at the time of the prophet known for their ignorance]

Daily Blames Saudi Arabia

LD1107143189 Tehran IRNA in English 1402 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA—The U.S.-Zionist press is expected to weave its own yarn of fantasy on the two explosions in Mecca Monday night, and no one will be surprised if these trumpets of global arrogance lay the blame at the Islamic Republic's door in an attempt to whitewash their puppet regime.

As usual, the Western media may resort to any cheap stunt in its bid to distract world public opinion from the second anniversary of the pilgrim carnage (July 1987), perpetrated by the Saudi regime on the threshold of the sacred Ka'bah where the shedding of even an animal's blood is divinely prohibited.

With barely a few days to go for the annual hajj, the blasts last night violated the sanctity of the holy place, and once again drove home the point that the Al-Sa'ud clan is neither competent enough nor has religious credentials to administer the Haramayn Sharifayn [Holy Sanctuaries].

Although no accurate news is yet available on the dirty deed, the Persian daily KEYHAN says with respect to the type of action, and the site of explosions "It can certainly be concluded that the crime was committed by the Saudis, the perpetrators of an even more horrible crime in Mecca two years ago."

The stupidity of the house of Sa'ud results from its total subservience and moral corruption, said the daily, so much so that herebrained Riyadh thinks that it could overshadow its previous crime by committing a new one.

KEYHAN believes that the Saudis have two motives behind their new crime: first, diverting world public opinion especially that of the Muslims from ceremonies marking the 40th day of the demise of the leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeini (Thursday).

"And the second motive is to find a pretext for suppressing the antipathy towards pagan rallies, and any other expression of hatred towards the U.S. and the Zionist regimes which it nervously expects during the hajj," it concluded.

Musavi-Ardabili Comments

LD1107160189 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA—"Last night's bomb blasts in Mecca are without doubt the work of the very same mercenaries who massacred over 400 pilgrims near Allah's safe house two years earlier," the chief justice said today.

"The two incidents once again prove that Saudi rulers are incompetent to administer the Haramayn Sharifayn [Holy Sanctuaries]," added a statement issued by Ayatollah 'Abdol Karim Musavi-Ardabili on the new violation.

The chief justice pointed out that these two holy cities should be administered by a pious body representing world Muslims, and in accordance with Islamic laws.

Certainly American or Saudi laws are not needed for Islam's two most holiest places, he said referring to the ignominy that the zuyuf al-rahman (guests of God) have to suffer in requiring a Saudi visa to fulfill the Almighty's commandments.

"If the aim of the bomb blasts was to make Ka'bah insecure then those responsible for such the sacred crime must be considered apostate and punished with a serious sharia accord."

The bomb blasts coincided with the second anniversary of the Saudi massacre of pilgrims, and as all anniversary point, Riyadh planned the crime to deter Muslims from demonstrating their antipathy towards infidels from the West.

Yesterday there were big rallies in Tehran against the obscure Saudis, who trace their roots to Jewagaints the and who in the 1930s seized the Hijaz and other tribes, the Arabian Peninsula with British help. Other parts of

Khamene'i Commemorates 1987 Mecca 'Massacre'
*LD1207091289 Tehran IRNA in English 0730 GMT
12 Jul 89*

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA—Ceremonies were held Tuesday night on behalf of the leader Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i to commemorate the martyrs of the 1987 Mecca massacre.

It was the fourth and last night of the ceremonies on the occasion which was initially due to be held over three nights.

Over 400 hajj pilgrims mostly Iranians were martyred while performing "immunity from pagans" marches in Mecca.

A large number of ranking officials and people from various walks of life attended the ceremony.

8 Jul Arrival of Hizballah, PLO Members Noted
*NC0907061989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 9 Jul 89*

[Text] A group of Lebanese and Palestinian Leaders arrived in Tehran last night to attend the 40th day ceremonies for Imam Khomeyni—may his soul be sanctified—and to pledge allegiance to the lofty status of the leadership of the Islamic revolution along with Mr Velayati, our foreign minister.

According to the Central News Unit, Nabih Birri, head of the Amal Movement and Lebanon's minister of Justice, Sayyid Hasan Nasrallah, and Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli from among the heads of the revolutionary Hizballah movement, along with Ahmad Jibril, the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [General Command] and Colonel Abu Musa, a leader of the PLO, are among the high-level members of this delegation.

Velayati, Fadlallah Discuss Events
*LD0907185189 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT
9 Jul 89*

[Text] Tehran, July 9, IRNA—Lebanese religious leader 'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadhlallah today discussed the Lebanese crisis and other Islamic world issues with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here.

Fadhlallah expressed condolences on the demise of Imam Khomeyni and stressed the importance of Iran's continued support for the rightful struggles of the Muslim people of Lebanon and Palestine against the Zionist regime and its internal mercenaries.

He also expressed hope that the Islamic Republic, under the leadership of Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, will powerfully follow the imam's path and objectives.

Velayati reiterated Tehran's all-out support for all Islamic and nationalist combatants in Lebanon. He also expressed hope that Islamic Iran will achieve the imam's aspirations under the leadership and guidelines of Ayatollah Khamene'i.

Prominent Lebanese Arrive for Mourning Ceremony
*LD1107170289 Tehran IRNA in English 1450 GMT
11 Jul 89*

[Text] Beirut, July 11, IRNA—Over 200 Lebanese religious and political figures left for the Islamic Republic today to participate in the 40th day ceremony marking the sad demise of the leader of the Islamic Revolution Imam Khomeyni, which falls on coming Thursday.

Some of the more prominent Lebanese who flew to Tehran Tuesday are Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din vice-chairman of the Supreme Shi'ite Assembly, and 'Abdallah-Rasi deputy premier and interior minister of Lebanon who is heading an official delegation.

Others who made up the large Lebanese party include a group from the Assembly of Muslim 'Ulema, and representatives of the Jabal Amil 'Ulema, Lebanese Hizballah, Islamic Tawhid Movement, Amal Movement, Druze Socialist Party, Communist Party, a group of Lebanese women, and some journalists and university lecturers.

Prominent 'Alim 'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadhlallah and Amal Movement chief Nabih Birri are already in Tehran along with several other Lebanese and Palestinian figures including Ahmad Jibril who heads the People's Front for Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] and Palestinian National Salvation Front leader Col. Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha].

Beirut witnessed the largest gathering in its history when 600,000 people marched on its streets last month on hearing the shocking news of the demise of the leader of the Islamic revolution.

Nabih Birri Interviewed
*LD1107164289 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT
11 Jul 89*

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA—Leader of the Amal Movement of Lebanon Nabih Birri has said in an interview with the Persian daily KAYHAN that he has 'scultural' [word as received] plans for reconciling the Amal and the Hizballah in Lebanon which he will execute upon return to Beirut.

In the interview published in the Tuesday [11 July] issue of the daily the leader of the Amal also said that he is going to concentrate his efforts more on the lower level hierarchies of the two opposing groups in Lebanon.

Birri along with a number of Hizballah and Palestinian leaders is in Tehran for participation in the Thursday ceremonies marking the 40th day of the passing away of Imam Khomeyni. He arrived here with a delegation accompanying Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati who was in Syria last week to discuss the Lebanese issue and renewed fighting between Amal and Hizballah.

Birri was here shortly after the victory of the Islamic revolution in February 1979 for congratulating the leader of the revolution Imam Khomeyni and the Iranian nation.

Birri also sharply criticized Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn for having helped Zionist mercenaries in Lebanon. He said the assistance of the Iraqi Government to Zionist elements in Lebanon in one year is equal to Israel's support to its mercenaries in the thirteen-year period from 1975 through 1988.

He said the Iraqi Government intends to end the Syrian and Iranian role in Lebanon and impose a war on Lebanon as they did impose on Iran. He said the Iraqi Government knows that it cannot do so without first making sure that the forces supporting the oppressed masses in Lebanon, that is Iranian and Syrian forces are done away with in that country.

He said Baghdad's objective in Lebanon was not to crush Amal but "far than that, to control the situation (in Lebanon), something which would definitely be in the interest of Israel."

Birri said Michel 'Awn has recently received secret aids from Iraq but that neither he nor Saddam have disclosed it. Among the aids, he said, have been various kinds of military tanks, and frog missiles, but added that national and Muslim forces, too have better military hardware.

He noted that during the uprising which started on February 6 the Amal forces seized M-72 tanks from the Israeli troops which are far better than the T-55 and T-45 tanks.

The leader of the Amal said that in an interview with the press earlier on in Damascus he had voiced concern about the imbalance of power, and referred to Damascus as a party which should provide the Amal with FROG missiles. He said he had indicated in the same interview that if Syria should grudge the Amal those missiles then the Amal would have to procure them from other sources, which statement he said, has aroused various interpretations by the international media.

The Lebanese official also said that he is confident his visit to Tehran for attending the commemoration ceremonies of Imam Khomeyni will further consolidate the relations between the Islamic Republic and the Amal Movement.

Nabih Birri arrived in Tehran Monday and visited Imam Khomeyni's shrine and the tombs of martyrs of the Islamic Revolution at Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery south of Tehran on the same day.

Hizballah Briefs Musavi-Ardabili

*LD1107195889 Tehran IRNA in English 1812 GMT
11 Jul 89*

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA—Leaders of Lebanon's Hizballah including Shaykh Subhi Tufayli and Hasan Nasrullah today presented a report to Chief Justice Ayatollah 'Abdol Karim Musavi-Ardabili on Lebanon's political situation.

Tufayli also condoled the passing away of the leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni.

The Hizballah officials are here to participate in a ceremony to be held Thursday in commemoration of the imam.

Palestinian Leader Affirms Allegiance to Khomeyni

*NC1207085089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 12 Jul 89*

[Text] Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], leader of Fatah-the Uprising, is in Tehran to participate in the 40th day memorial ceremony for Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified. In an interview with the Central News Unit, he said: We have come to Iran to renew our allegiance to Imam Khomeyni at his grave and to make a covenant with the leadership of the Islamic revolution for the holy path of Imam Khomeyni which was the liberation of Jerusalem.

Referring to the Islamic revolution led by Imam Khomeyni and to the imam's struggles against arrogance in general, and U.S. imperialism and Zionism in particular, which led to the liberation of Iran and the creation of the Islamic Republic, he said: The imam did not belong just to the Iranian nation. He belonged to all muslims.

He added: We, the united but homeless Palestinian nation whose land and sanctities have been occupied, hope to liberate Palestine and Jerusalem, this holy land of the Muslims, and we are prepared to make a covenant with the great and sincere men who are continuing the imam's path for the liberation of the holy land.

Commenting on the massacre of pilgrims in the house of God 2 years ago and the recent bomb explosion in Mecca, he condemned the Saudi dynasty and said: The Saudi family rules over our sanctities. It is a toy in the hands of U.S. imperialism and the implementer of its plans. We all know that it advocates the defense of Islam despite all the anti-Islamic acts that it perpetrates. He added: When the pilgrims to the house of God raised their voice and called for the downfall of the United States and Zionism 2 years ago, we saw how many

Iranian and non-Iranian pilgrims, including Palestinians, were killed by the puppets of Israel and the United States. He said: The Saudi family wants to limit the hajj to prayer and pilgrimage, to prevent the pilgrims from discussing issues concerning the political, social, and cultural life of Muslim nations, and to make the pilgrims follow the political logic of U.S. arrogance and Israel. He added: The time has now come for the sincere and pious Muslims to stand up before the Saudi family and to make the Saudi family take its hands off the Islamic holy shrines, the House of God, and the prophet's tomb, and to tell them that the House of God is not the personal property of the Saudi family or anybody else, but belongs to all Muslims. He said: The message of the Palestinian nation to all Muslim nations and especially to the Islamic Republic of Iran is one of God is great and of jihad, which is the cry of the genuine Palestinian combatants who appeal to the consciences of the world's Muslims to join the jihad so that Palestine will be liberated from the hands of Israel and arrogance headed by the United States.

Khamene'i Reinstates Council of Guardians Members
LD1107193989 Tehran IRNA in English 1820 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA—Leader of the Islamic Republic Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i on Tuesday [11 July] reinstated Mohammad Mohammadi Gilani, Mohammad Emami Kashani and Mohammad Mo'men in their posts as jurisprudent members of the Council of Guardians.

In a decree issued here, Ayatollah Khamene'i explained that since the task of appointing the jurisprudent members of the Council of Guardians rested with him, he reinstated the above-mentioned 'ulema whose tenure would expire on July 16.

The Council of Guardians is responsible for safeguarding the Constitution and endorsing laws passed by the Majlis, or the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

The leader of the Islamic revolution also wished success for the 'ulema.

Mohtashemi Comments on Status of Political Groups
LD1107183289 Tehran IRNA in English 1333 GMT
11 Jul 89

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA—Three political parties and one professional association received official licences for political and professional activity from Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi here today.

Those receiving the licenses in a ceremony also attended by the press, were Marziyeh Hadid-Chi on behalf of the Women's Association of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hojjat ol-Eslam Kiyan Erthi, a founding member of the

Association of the Combatant 'Ulema, Mohammad Mehdi 'Abd-Khoda'i from the Muslim fedayeen, and Baytollah Sattari, founder of the Association of Muslim Writers and Artists.

The interior minister said the applications of other political parties and associations are being studied and added that those which have not yet received an official government authorization will not be allowed to operate.

The minister said so far 60 groups and parties, including one leftist group, had presented their platforms to the ministry. Of this number, he added, the files of 14 had been completed and were under study at a (Article 10) Committee set up to deal with the issue. Another four received their licenses today, he said.

He said another three licences have been issued to the Cultural Association of Armenians, the Charity Association of Armenian Women, and the Association of the Jewish Community in Tehran.

Mohtashemi said he has not yet received any report about rejection of any application for receiving such licences, but commented that if an enquiry into the past performance of any specific group should prove that it has had any activity against the best interests of the Islamic Republic its application for an official license will not be honored.

Regarding the Freedom Movement, he said it was among the 14 cases which were under study at the committee. "I don't know whether their request (to form an official party) has been accepted or rejected. I only know that liberal groups have not had a healthy background, whether at the time of the provisional government or before and after that. These are issues which the Article 10 Committee should investigate."

He said the Constitution of the Islamic Republic provides for all sorts of freedoms in keeping with the dictates of Islam. He said the laws for the establishment of parties had been passed at the Majlis in 1981, but that due to the war-time situation its execution had been suspended.

*** Larijani on Second Decade of Revolution, Strategy**
46400090a Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian
1 Jun 89 p 20

[Commentary by Dr Mohammad Javad Larijani: "The Second Decade of the Revolution and National Strategy."]

[Text] 1 - The power and the strength of the revolution is not that it should not have any difficulties, rather it is important that it should be able to solve problems. A revolution as great as this, which seeks to destroy the materialistic ideas dominating the world and replace

them with the exalted palace and which does not acknowledge any limits or borders, problems! enemies, as well as major

It is faced with unavoidable important thing is the way the Republic solves these problems. The government of the Islamic rely on the strength, righteousness and health of the revolution.

2 - We can face problems difficult, if we hold firmly to two basic beliefs.

First, the nation's management. We are neither the first nor the last nation wishing to establish its government in an area of politics, there are written records going back at least three thousand years, of reason and the sons of man. All these records show that it is not possible to manage affairs without planning.

Second, the present revolutionary generation and the capital of the world of Islam. Some people fear that if we are drawn into the term "planning," they will fall into the hands of the bureaucrats who are experienced and who do things in the old ways. In other words, revolution cannot have a generation of the Islamic and planners.

This low self-esteem and lack of self confidence is deadly poison for the Islamic revolution.

3 - If we have the two basic beliefs above, we will then be able to look to the second principle of the Islamic revolution and ask ourselves [principle of original illegible].

This is the most important question the nation's future president will face. Many affairs are wound together like a tangled skein, but one must not fear this. The future president must not bury himself in a mass of secondary, tangled issues. This itself is a mass of secondary, a way out or discovering the main obstacle to finding correct plan.

In my view, the future president and indeed the entire government of the Islamic Republic must specify two principal matters right now:

First, national goals (or interests). What is meant by goals that are for the entire nation, with regard to stages of development. The Islamic essence and the historic, real, sacred and basic government must strive constantly to achieve these unique priority goals, for a they have a

Second, the national strategy, which consists of mobilizing all the nation's resources and doing it suitably to achieve national goals.

4 - For the political leader who bears on his shoulders the responsibility of managing the nation, two chief dangers always exist. One is being buried in the opinions and theoretical complexities of managing the country, the other is becoming bogged down and getting away from efficient administrative problem-solving in various areas. In managing the nation, it is necessary to have both the active and experienced executive hands and the turbulent and subdued thinking which attacks evil and finds the right path through the darkness.

God willing, we will discuss these issues again in the future.

Larijani on Prospects for U.S.-Iraqi Relations
NC1107102489 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English
6 Jul 89 p 3

[Commentary by Mohammad Javad Larijani: "U.S. and Iraq—A New Policy"]

[Text] 1. American experts and politicians usually hold three different views on relations with Iraq: The first group considers Iraq's Ba'athist regime as well as present leadership a real threat to U.S. interests and influence in the region. The second group is at the extreme opposite: They hold that the present regime in Baghdad was signalling an authentic change of policy towards U.S.A. even before invading Iran in 1980! It was American lack of "sense" that could not read those signals. The third group has a more moderate tone: They believe it is only a matter of time for us to have reliable relations with Iraq.

2. Each of these three different views has its own consequences for the security of Persian Gulf and American influence in the Arab world. According to the first view, the U.S. should look for a reliable ally to protect its so-called "vital interests"! Iran being defiant and "fundamentalist" is not of much help, at least in the near future, so a composition of advanced armaments for Saudis plus strong and effective military presence in Persian Gulf should be the basis for American policy at least for a decade. But according to the second view on Iraq, U.S. should immediately move to make a new "Shah" out of Saddam Husayn. This new "fellow" will function exactly or even better than the previous one. He will protect U.S. influence and interests in the region; he will be a real gendarme for the Persian Gulf, and he will contain Iran's revolutionary fervor from overspilling into other countries. Finally, this "reborn" Saddam will work effectively towards an acceptance of Zionist Israel in the region. If not wishful thinking, this is an "extravaganza" for U.S. in Persian Gulf area and Arab world.

Frankly, I think while this scenario is "too" good to be true, it may happen not very far from now; and it is a "disaster" for the peace and stability of the region.

3. In more concrete terms: I can't see any major obstacle in the relations of U.S.A. and Iraq. Iraq's position towards Israel has radically changed from ultra-left and militant position to the strategic "alliance" with Egypt and military support for the "Phalangists" in Beirut. America could develop, by a reasonable pace, an extensive relation with Iraq. At some stage they can get rid of Saddam and find a more reliable "fellow" to function in Baghdad. Confined to bilateral interests, this relationship does not have any special importance. But the minute it goes beyond the two countries and expands itself for some role in Persian Gulf and Arab world, it is the beginning of another catastrophe in the region. Here I believe it will be Americans who pay the highest price.

Larijani on Past, Present Soviet Relations

NC0907112689 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian
29 Jun 89 p 20

[Weekly political analysis by Dr Javad Larijani: "Iran and the Soviet Union—New Horizons and Past Restrictions"]

[Excerpts] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Moscow and the agreements reached in all fields are undoubtedly some of the greatest foreign political successes of the system and of the country's diplomacy. The results of these successes will not be limited to the relations between the two countries. They will also affect the region and have a considerable effect on international relations.

Two years ago I visited Moscow at the head of an official delegation. This was the first official visit from Tehran after a period of complete stagnation and a complete freeze in relations between the two countries. [passage omitted]

During that visit, from my detailed and frequent discussions with Gromyko and his associates and colleagues in the Foreign Ministry I gleaned that the priorities of the Soviet foreign policy at that time were:

1. To protect the Saddam regime from downfall at all costs, preserve the Soviet bases in Iraq, and consolidate and expand the weak and vulnerable Soviet position in the Arab world.
2. To strengthen the Marxist regime in Kabul and completely defeat the mujahidin in Afghanistan.
3. To endeavor to change the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy of neither East nor West as well as its bias toward Islam. [passage omitted]

Even though the former policymakers of the Kremlin raised the slogans of antagonism [preceding word in English] toward U.S. imperialism, they considered themselves vulnerable in the Persian Gulf. Therefore, their policy in this region was based on noninvolvement with and refraining from any provocation of the West. [passage omitted]

Today, the Soviet Union does not consider itself weak in the Persian Gulf. The Arab world feels more cordial toward and appreciative of the Soviet Union today for its support to Iraq in the war. Soviet relations with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE [United Arab Emirates], and Oman are progressing speedily. Broadening of Soviet ties with Iran, even though this may make other countries fearful of Iran, will still bring these countries closer to the Soviet Union.

In conclusion, the "new thinking" in the Soviet Union is opening up new horizons for the Soviet Union in all fields while the United States and Great Britain are still wallowing in their imaginary world!

Raja'i-Khorasani Comments on Soviet Relations

NC1107113289 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES
in English 6 Jul 89 pp 1, 15

[Report by Irfan Parviz]

[Text] Tehran—A former senior diplomat yesterday said that Irano-Soviet relations are not tactical but natural and believed that Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Moscow visit was an eminently "successful," one.

Sa'id Raja'i-Khorasani, former ambassador of Iran to the United Nations, said the recent improvement in Tehran-Moscow ties was based on certain principles believed by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Raja'i-Khorasani, a deputy of the Majlis (Parliament) has recently been elected head of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the legislative body.

Talking to the TEHRAN TIMES he said, "we are not concerned whether the West likes it or not. The improvement of the Irano-Soviet relations was quite natural."

He was commenting on last month's Majlis speaker's visit to the Soviet Union where Hashemi-Rafsanjani received head of state like welcome by the Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"We want our relations to be cordial with all our neighbors on the basis of independence, mutual respect and noninterference," he said.

"Similarly and on the same bases we want to have cordial relations with other neighbors," he added.

The improvement of Irano-Soviet relations is in the interest of both countries, he said, adding that both the countries will benefit by these developments.

"There are areas where the two countries can utilize their resources for the benefit of the peoples of both the countries," Raja'i-Khorasani said.

"The people of the Soviet Union like us, and our people like them, and there are no hurdles in the way for further improvement in reciprocal relations," the Majlis Deputy from Tehran said. He said the Soviet Union is a neighbor which provides "a plus point for the increase in bilateral trade."

When asked, the leading parliamentarian said, "Yes, the Soviets can play a major role for the implementation of the Security Council Resolution 598 which was accepted by Iran last July. [quotation marks as published]

Last August the Iran-Iraq war was terminated and a ceasefire was enforced. Since then the two countries have partaken in a series of U.N. sponsored negotiations with no result. Even the first paragraph of the Resolution 598 which called for the withdrawal of the two forces on the internationally recognized borders, has not been implemented.

In a recent meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar praised the Iranian stance for the implementation of the resolution.

Iran blamed Iraq for creating hurdles in the way of the implementation of the resolution.

"If the Soviets take effective steps it will be a political victory of the Kremlin leaders in the Security Council," he said, adding that if genuine peace is established the prestige of the Security Council will be increased in the Third World.

Referring to the blasphemous "The Satanic Verses" by Salman Rushdie he said the imam's fatwa (religions decree) remained valid because it was issued according to shari'a (Islamic Law).

"And moreover, we do not see any change in the British attitude towards this vital problem of the Muslims worldwide," Raja'i-Khorasani said referring to the British Government's refusal to extend blasphemy laws for Muslims who want to bring author Salman Rushdie to trial for blaspheming Islam.

"I'll advise the British Government to review its relations with the Muslims across the world," he said pointing out that following the last February fatwa by the imam there were some governments of Muslim countries which took a serious view of the problem.

"Certain Muslim governments' opposition to the blasphemy to Islam was only because they (governments) knew the utmost anger of the peoples of their countries," Sa'id Raja'i-Khorasani said.

"If 10 Downing Street (Prime Minister's Office of Britain) considers that the relations with governments alone and enough then I'll say they are wrong," he said.

Raja'i-Khorasani said, "The British leaders should not ignore the feelings of the Muslims across the world."

When asked what minimum steps may be taken by the British Government in this regard Raja'i-Khorasani said, "Ban, collect and condemn the book."

"Sure it's not enough, but it may lessen the anger of the world Muslims," he said.

Paper Views 'Expanding' Ties With USSR

PM1107152989 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian
5 Jul 89 p 22

[Editorial: "New Agreements, Old Relations"]

[Excerpts] A great deal of importance was attributed to Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to the Soviet Union both inside and outside the country. There were various reactions to the visit, which occurred a short time after the death of Imam Komeyni and which proved the country's stability and the continued line of the policy founded by the late leader of the revolution.

The economic agreements reached between the two sides will play an important role in determining our country's future economic situation and the process of growth. It also will affect the nation's defensive power. Both of these factors will affect the Islamic Republic's foreign policy.

Since the expansion of relations between the two countries started with a letter from the late founder of the Islamic Republic to Gorbachev and since Hashemi-Rafsanjani's trip was planned during the imam's lifetime, it's likely that the current trend in expanding bilateral relations will last a long time.

As far as the Americans are concerned, these relations mean that Iran will find an escape route that will fill the void left by the Westerners. This in itself dims any prospect of Iran going back to the Western camp. Additionally, expanded ties between Iran and the Soviet Union will tip the balance of power in the Middle East in a way that would not be in Washington's interest. [passage omitted]

One can categorize Iran's intentions with regard to relations with Moscow in three ways:

1. Finding powerful friends who will help Iran with its political goals throughout the world: The most important of these goals is the realization of Resolution 598 and an end to the peace talks between Iran and Iraq. Now that the differences between Iran and Iraq have left the military stage and entered a political phase, it is important for both sides to gain diplomatic help. It seems Moscow also is paying a good deal of attention to Iran's intentions in this regard. Radio Moscow in an 18 June editorial said: Cooperation between Iran and the Soviet Union has strengthened considerably Iran's position in the talks with Iraq. It has given these talks political stability and is helping to resolve existing differences.

The final protocol signed by the two countries mentions the necessity of implementing Resolution 598 and supporting the UN secretary general's four-point plan. In this way, the Islamic Republic's position in the peace talks has Moscow's support.

Iran also is trying to resolve the Afghan issue in this manner, in such a way as to allow the country's Muslims to determine their own fate and in such a way that no major power would have control over Afghanistan. This goal is not only aimed at securing the northeastern borders of Iran, it also is aimed at creating unity among the Muslim communities. By admitting its past mistakes and pulling out its forces from Afghanistan, the Soviet Union is helping to resolve the crisis. Although Iran and the Soviet Union have different views on Afghanistan, the phrases used in the final protocol signed at the end of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's trip to Moscow indicate that the two sides are getting closer on this matter. The protocol says: Both sides have stressed the rights of the Afghan people and the safeguarding of their historic and Islamic identity and support an Afghanistan that is independent, nonaligned, and Islamic, one which has good relations with its neighbors.

2. Solving problems and meeting economic and technological needs: At a time when Iran has moved into a reconstruction phase with the end of the war, it seems impossible not to get involved with foreign elements because of economic complexities. Of course, this does not mean that internal forces do not make up the largest portion of the growth element.

The agreement with the Soviet Union, especially in terms of economics, will realize this goal. The \$6 billion in trade and financial deals between the two countries clearly indicates the emphasis on economics in bilateral relations. Long-term economic cooperation makes up for a major portion of these financial activities. Although technology in the Soviet Union is not as advanced as it is in the West, keeping in mind the backward state of our own technology, the technological knowledge gained from the Soviets will be more easily understood and accepted by our industry.

One must also remember that in countries such as Iran, the government plays the major role in economic growth and progress and having economic relations with the Eastern bloc—keeping in mind these countries' government-oriented industry—will strengthen the role of the government and not the private sector. This would not be the case in economic ties with the West.

3. Needs for arms and logistics: Although Iran reached a good level of self-sufficiency during the imposed war with regard to weapons, naturally, it needs outside help with more modern systems. Iran has repeatedly announced that this portion of its needs would have to be supplied from outside. Keeping in mind the harsh reaction shown by U.S. officials toward relations between Tehran and Moscow, it seems that there have been substantial arms purchase agreements reached between Iran and the Soviet Union. The agreement on friendly cooperation between Iran and the USSR says: The Soviet side has agreed to cooperate with Iran in order to expand defense potentials.

Of course, each of the three points raised would have been achieved with little difference with the West. But with the open confrontation between Iran and the West over the Salman Rushdie affair, which has increased differences between the two sides in other areas, and with the West's open efforts to destroy the national and Islamic identities of the Muslim communities and to attack Muslim social values, the expansion of ties with the West became impossible. Especially when the West repeatedly has shown that it is willing to use the economic weapon against countries in order to interfere in their internal affairs—as in the recent case of China.

In this connection, it is not untimely to look at the Soviet Union's foreign policy in the Middle East and especially in Iran. [passage omitted]

The attractions in the Middle East for the Soviets include close proximity, strategic importance, vast natural resources, and hard currency reserves. All of the above are also true for Iran, in addition to which the 2,500 km border adds to the strategic importance.

Present Soviet policy in the region is to increase the expand relations with all sides of the conflict. That way, relations with either side would not greatly affect relations with the opposing side. Having close ties with Tehran would enable the Kremlin to resolve the issue in Afghanistan and gain political influence in the Persian Gulf region.

One can gather from the above points that relations between Iran and the Soviet Union have expanded because they fulfill some of the foreign policy goals of both countries.

Islamic Republic officials attribute the expanding bilateral relations to the removal of three obstacles. First was the presence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan, which

ended last year, the Soviet arms sales to Iraq, which became irrelevant after the end of the war; and the relative religious freedom granted in the Soviet Union itself in the Muslim republics.

The Soviet welcome of long-term and important agreements between the two countries can be considered because the Soviets want to take advantage of the rift between Iran and the West. They want to prevent a situation whereby Iran would need to turn to the West to obtain necessary economic and military aid.

Agreements reached between Iran and the Soviet Union have already provoked reaction, the most important of which has come from the United States. White House officials, even before Hashemi-Rafsanjani's trip and during a meeting between James Baker and his Soviet counterpart, discouraged the Soviets from expanding ties with Iran especially in the arms field. During Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's trip to Moscow, the United States once again warned about selling arms to Iran, saying this was not pleasing to Washington.

Ties between Iran and the USSR are unpleasant to the White House for two reasons: First, military and economic cooperation with Iran, which has challenged the West's control in the Middle East, may exaggerate this confrontation and seriously endanger U.S. and Western interests in the region. As mentioned before, the United States considers the Soviet Union and the Islamic revolution its two most serious threats when it comes to interests in the Middle East. These two elements come closer could cause great worry.

Second, as far as the Americans are concerned, Iran has to look abroad to fulfill its economic and military needs and to achieve its political goals and the West would be the best place to go for this. Therefore, the Soviet efforts to expand relations with Iran, which has been called an opportunistic one as far as the Soviets are concerned, gives Tehran a chance to find a way to meet its demands other than one that leads to the West. In this way, Iran will find a way not to fall into the Western trap and not have to agree to deals that would please the West.

The comments of a State Department spokeswoman reply to recent events with regard to Moscow and Tehran: While the Soviet Union is trying to play a more responsible role on the international scene, it is very difficult for us and others to understand why it is trying to get closer to a country that continues to support international terrorism and hostage-taking.

Keeping in mind the wide coverage given by the West European press to Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's trip, it can be understood that these countries are just as worried over relations between Iran and the Soviet Union as the United States.

Constitution Reappraisal Group Approves Articles
NC0607074589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 6 Jul 89

[Text] During the 36th general assembly of the Council for the Reappraisal of the Constitution, which was presided over by Ayatollah Meshkini, the report of the second hearing of the first committee on the leadership and leadership experts continued. After proposals and remarks by the members, the following articles were approved:

I. Article 5: During the absence of the ruler of the ages, may the Almighty hasten his noble advent, the velayat-e amr [legal guardianship] and the imamate of the ummah in the Islamic Republic of Iran will rest on the shoulders of a theologian and canonist who will be just, virtuous, abreast of the times, brave, an organizer, and judicious person who will be entrusted with this duty according to Article 107. In this article the phrase beginning with "whom the majority of people" and continuing until the end of the article has been omitted, and the phrase according to Article 107 has been added.

II. Article 91: To safeguard the tenets and precepts of Islam and the Constitution with a view to ensuring that parliamentary enactments do not violate them, a council entitled Council of Guardians shall be formed with the following composition: six theologians and canonists who are just and abreast of the times. The nomination of this group will be made by the leadership. In Paragraph 1 of this article, the term "Council of Leadership" has been omitted.

III. Article 99: The Council of Guardians shall supervise the election of the leadership experts and of the president, the elections of the Majlis, and the holding of a referendum. In this article the phrase "the election of the leadership experts" has been added.

IV. Article 142: The head of the judiciary branch shall verify the financial assets of the leader, the president, the deputy presidents, the ministers, and their wives and children before and after their appointment in order to ensure that these assets have not increased unaccountably. In this article the phrase "the members of the Council of Leadership" has been omitted and the phrase "the Supreme Court of Cassation" has been replaced by the head of the judiciary branch.

Moreover, a new article was added under Article 111 as follows:

In the case of the death, resignation, or removal of the leader, a council comprising the president, the head of the judiciary branch, and one of the canonists of the Council of Guardians to be selected by the Expediency Discernment Council will provisionally undertake the leadership duties. If during this period one of the aforesaid cannot, for any reason, carry out his duties, another individual to be selected by the Council will be assigned

to his position. This Council will carry out the duties stated in subparagraphs [radifha-ye—fbis] 1, 3, 6, and 9 and Paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 of subparagraph 4 of Article 110 with the vote of three-fourths of the members of the Expediency Discernment Council. The experts should, as soon as possible, appoint and present a new leader.

If the leader is temporarily unable to carry out his leadership duties because of illness or another incident, then during this period the said Council will undertake his duties in this article.

Paper Refutes Majlis Deputy's Criticism

NC1107112889 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES
in English 6 Jul 89 p 2

[Editorial: "What Is Behind Sharapasand's Unrealistic Criticism?"]

[Text] On Tuesday this week the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the Majlis, saw one of its most sensational days. The issue that virtually caused pandemonium in the Majlis was the presentation by a Majlis deputy from Karaj, 'Abdol-Majid Sharapasand, on Sunday of his reasons to justify his resignation as a deputy.

In his speech more of propaganda than reasoned argument, Sharapasand cast doubt on the legitimacy of the nation's Islamic regime and its very fundamental principles.

Sharapasand's claims such as the "monopolization of power by certain cliques" or "the ceremonial presence of the people in the scene" etc., were an highly imaginative rendition with no touch of reality. His views are only the reflection of very unprincipled and narrowminded ways of looking at things. His approach showed he was totally self-centered and a long way off from developments that shape our revolutionary society.

The problems facing us today as a revolutionary Third World country can by no means be downgraded or glossed over. But to see the realities and problems for what they are is one thing and to try to create distrust and hopelessness in people is another.

An issue relevant to ongoing changes is that of an amended constitution with fundamental changes in areas as significant as leadership now in the offing. The aim has solely been to remove the deficiencies in the supreme law of the land in order to assist a thorough and speedy turnaround in the pace of achieving the Islamic and national objectives of the country.

As far as the revision of the constitution is concerned the crux of the matter has been to create such a concentration of management in the executive body as to facilitate the realization of our objectives. Naturally then these basic changes have already behind them the momentum of all the existing political currents in the country, as well as that of our political theoreticians.

Sharapasand's rash move then can simply be interpreted as a rejection of the sovereignty of law. In other words his main motives must have been aimed at creating a current with its leadership in the hands of the extremists of his mould in order to impose their own views on society.

Many Majlis deputies, however, had decided to stage a walkout in protest against Sharapasand's abuse of his freedom of speech. But the body as a whole moved only within the limits of law and gave all due legal consideration to his resignation from deputyship.

Ironically Sharapasand's own statements against the Islamic government were directly aired by Tehran Radio, a solid proof of the system's adherence to democratic norms.

For a fact, however, Sharapasand's illogical move brought even more disgrace on extremism as a current. This line of thinking which found expression in the deputy from Karaj, will inevitably have to disappear from the political scene if it insists on such illogical and cheap posturing to gain its ends.

'Abbas Omidian Appointed New Tehran Police Chief LD0907144189 Tehran IRNA in English 1305 GMT 9 Jul 89

[Text] Mashhad, July 9, IRNA—Chief of the state police General Reza Niknezhad said here today that he has appointed General 'Abbas Omidian Tehran police chief replacing General Hoseyn Agha'i. The appointment, he said, has been confirmed by the minister of the interior Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi.

Before his appointment to the post General Omidian was police chief for Khorasan Province.

Nepal

Government 'Eagerly Awaits' Indian Reply on Talks BK0707005489 Hong Kong AFP in English 2159 GMT 6 Jul 89

[Text] Kathmandu, July 6 (AFP)—The Nepalese Government said Thursday [6 July] it was eagerly awaiting a reply from New Delhi on its proposal to hold high-level talks on a 14-week-old trade row.

"Nepal is eager to iron out the problems between the two countries through friendly talks and discussions as soon as possible," chief spokesman R.S. Bista told a weekly press briefing Thursday.

Indo-Nepalese relations have been strained since March 23, the date trade and transit treaties expired. The economy of landlocked Nepal has suffered severe shortages because of the unresolved dispute.

Mr. Bista said that in a June 26 letter to India, Nepalese Foreign Minister Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya "clarified Nepal's viewpoint on all aspects of the talks." The letter was in response to an Indian letter of June 16.

But he said that the Indian letter had made no mention of the level and time for the talks and referred only to the agenda. He reiterated that Nepal was in favor of ministerial-level talks in Kathmandu at the earliest date.

"Nepal has made it clear that it is in favour of fixing as soon as possible a talks date convenient to India," Mr. Bista said.

"As for the agenda, Nepal has made a clear and wide-ranging proposal covering different topics of concern to both sides including trade and transit," the spokesman added.

The Nepalese Government has asked the Indian Government to respond positively and promptly to Nepal's letter so that talks can start soon, he said.

Prime Minister on Sri Lanka, Indian Trade Issue
BK1007015089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1707 GMT 9 Jul 89

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Kathmandu, July 9 (AFP)—Nepalese Prime Minister Marich Man Singh Shrestha on Sunday [9 July] backed Sri Lanka's call for the withdrawal of Indian troops from the island nation.

"It has been the principle stand of Nepal to oppose the presence of foreign troops in any country," Mr Shrestha said in a lengthy and wide-ranging exchange with members of the National Panchayat (Parliament).

"The Sri Lankan Government invited them (the Indian troops). Now if the Sri Lankan Government asked them to go back, they should go back. We support their (Sri Lanka's) stand," he said.

Nepal, along with Sri Lanka, India, the Maldives, Bhutan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh form the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Sri Lanka refused to attend a proposed SAARC summit earlier this month in protest against India's continued military presence on its soil.

On landlocked Nepal's current stalemate with India over expired trade and transit treaties, Mr Shrestha "Nepal is willing to have dialogue with India on the basis of the principle of equality and mutual respect."

But he made it clear that on the pretext of discussing the treaties, which expired in March, so-called security issues should not be linked to bilateral negotiations.

Prior to the expiration of the treaties, Indo-Nepalese relations had taken a plunge, partly because of Nepal's purchase last year of Chinese arms, including anti-aircraft guns and medium range surface-to-surface missiles.

Mr Shrestha, also defence minister, said the Chinese arms "were procured to maintain high morale of the standing army," adding that Nepal would never do anything to threaten India's security. "India should never even think of any threat from Nepal," he stressed.

Mr Shrestha also said that Nepal was willing to review its 1950 treaty of peace and friendship with India if "it serves the purpose of strengthening friendship...and is in tune with the change of time and situation."

But the premier criticised New Delhi's policy of launching a tirade against Nepal's institution of monarchy. "Such unfriendly acts are against the norms of friendly relations and international law," he said.

He strongly defended the record of his three-year-old government and handled a barrage of questions from his critics. He praised legislators for showing support for his government on national issues and appealed to them to unite to face challenges from India.

Mr Shrestha also fielded questions on his government's policy for the 1989 fiscal year beginning July 16. Later, chairman of the house, Nav Raj Subedi, announced that Finance Minister B.B. Pradhan would table a budget for the coming fiscal year on Monday.

Survey Notes Effects of Trade Dispute With India
BK1007131889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1310 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] Kathmandu, July 10 (AFP)—A trade dispute with New Delhi that has resulted in the closing of most border crossings with India has cost the Nepalese economy 2.75 billion rupees (108 million dollars) since it began nearly four months ago, the government's annual economic survey has shown.

The survey, presented to the National Panchayat or parliament Sunday and reported on Nepalese television Monday, said gross domestic product (GDP) in the current fiscal year, which ends July 15, is expected to plummet to 1.53 per cent from an expected 5.3 per cent growth rate before the blockade began on March 23. This compares with GDP growth of 9.8 per cent in the prior fiscal year.

The trade impasse was expected to have an even more negative impact on the Nepalese economy during the next fiscal year.

The survey showed that agriculture production during the current fiscal year grew by 6.7 per cent or 5.7 million metric tonnes compared with the prior year. Non-agricultural growth, however, slumped by 5.7 percent, the

economic survey showed. "Economic activities of the country have slowed down due to the stalemate in the Nepal-India impasse relations on 'trade and transit,'" the survey said.

Treaties governing trade and transit between Nepal and India, which surrounds the landlocked Himalayan Kingdom on three sides, expired on March 23. India subsequently closed all but two border crossings with Nepal.

The survey showed that the agriculture sector contributed 55.8 per cent of GDP or 41.6 billion rupees (163.8 million dollars) while the non-agricultural sector was estimated at 44.2 per cent of total GDP, or 33 billion rupees (130 million dollars).

"Since the trade and transit impasse with India... production has declined and construction, transport, international and internal trade and distribution were brought to a standstill," the survey said.

Industrial output has been severely hampered by transport problems and shortages of essential materials such as petroleum products, coal and other industrial raw materials, the survey added.

The survey estimated that development expenditure will be nearly 12.8 percent of GDP in the current fiscal year, or 9.24 billion rupees (371 million dollars) compared with 13.9 per cent of GDP last year.

The report said disruptions caused by the blockade caused the rate of inflation to increase to double digits compared with a previous pledge by the public exchange to lower inflation to single digits by the end of this fiscal year.

In an apparent bid to combat the trade dispute's negative impact, the government of Prime Minister Man Mohan Singh Shrestha has adopted a more liberal fiscal policy to encourage importation of essential goods from other countries than India.

The liberal policy measures taken by (the) Shrestha government should help to augment international trade production in coming months," the survey noted.

In a move designed to boost Nepalese exports, particularly to the United States, Canada, and Europe, there will also be cash incentives of between 10 and 25 percent on also be cash incentives on dry ginger, pulses, a type of jute goods, and leather goods. lentil, leather

Budget Deficit, Currency Restrictions Announced
BK1107012089 Hong Kong AFP in English 2135 GMT 10 Jul 89

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Kathmandu, July 10 (AFP)—The Nepalese Government presented Parliament with a budget for the next fiscal year showing a heavy deficit of 9.52 billion rupees (346.08 million dollars), it was officially announced Monday. The shortfall was equal to 47 percent of the nation's predicted 1988-89 budget, beginning July 15.

The government also announced an end to free convertibility of Nepalese and Indian currencies, marking another stage in the ongoing trade dispute between the two neighbors.

Nepal's Finance Minister Bharat Bahadur Pradhan, in an hour-long televised speech to the national Panchayat, or Parliament, announced a budget of 20.24 billion rupees (736 million dollars). Of that figure, 6.65 billion rupees (241.86 million dollars) would go for defence-related expenditures.

Mr. Pradhan allocated 13.59 billion rupees (494.21 million dollars) for the development sector, including health, education, social services, agriculture, irrigation and hydroelectric development. About 40 per cent of the development expenditures were allocated for improving the economy of the rural poor.

On the revenue side, Mr. Pradhan estimated collecting 10.72 billion rupees (389.9 million dollars), mostly from taxes, customs collection and royalties from activities like mountaineering and arms licencing.

Included in the revenue figure was anticipated revenue of 2.22 billion rupees (80.87 million dollars) in the form of bilateral and multilateral grants from France, West Germany, the United States, Canada, Switzerland and the Nordic countries, as well as from oil-rich countries like Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

Assistance was also expected from international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank.

The remaining deficit was 9.52 billion rupees (346.08 million dollars), which Mr. Pradhan said he planned to meet from the bilateral and multilateral loans totaling 7.76 billion rupees (282.47 million dollars).

The shortfall of 1.76 billion rupees would be met from domestic bank borrowings and through sales of treasury bills and bonds worth of 1.15 billion rupees (41.81 million dollars), he said.

The biggest portion of the budget went to the transport sector, followed by education, agriculture, irrigation, electricity and power.

Mr. Pradhan said that the budget was prepared keeping in mind the present economic situation caused by a trade conflict with India. The two neighbors have been caught in a four-month long dispute following the expiry of trade and transit treaties that has seen India close 13 of the 15 border points between them, causing severe shortages of key goods in Nepal, especially fuel. The two sides have been unable to break an impasse on how negotiations should proceed.

Mr. Pradhan said the budget "has been guided by the objectives of increasing the economic activities of both government and non-government sectors so as to increase the production, distribution and employment opportunities."

He said that in view of the current economic situation, the government was not increasing taxes on personal income, registration fees and sales taxes, although there was a marginal hike of custom duties on the imports of foreign liquors, cigarettes, color television sets and other luxury items from foreign suppliers beyond India.

Mr. Pradhan also announced an end to free convertibility of Nepalese and Indian currencies.

He said that following India's unilateral decision to close the trading points with Nepal such currency exchange could no longer be maintained. "In this contest, it is not desirable to maintain free and unlimited exchange between the Indian and Nepalese currencies," he said.

Mr. Pradhan also cited the trade principle of "most-favoured nation" and Kathmandu's decision to bring custom tariffs into a uniform pattern as reasons for the move. He said that exchange facilities will be extended only on a use basis effective Monday.

Analysts here viewed the control of free exchange of the Nepalese rupee and the Indian rupee as a means of automatically controlling the influx of an unaccounted number of Indian immigrants, as well check the flight of Indian currency from Kathmandu's treasury.

'Free Exchange of Indian Currency' Abolished

*BK1107091089 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 11 Jul 89*

[Text] Nepal has abolished the existing policy of free exchange of Indian currency. The new policy of releasing limited amounts of Indian currency was announced by the Nepalese finance minister, Mr Bharat Bahadur Pradhan, while presenting the annual budget in the Rashtriya Panchayat [Parliament] yesterday.

AIR [All India Radio] Kathmandu correspondent, Sushil Chopra, reports that steps to limit free flow of Indian currency from Nepal have been taken because of its shortage in the Himalayan Kingdom in the last few months.

Under the new arrangements, 5,000 Indian rupees will be given to students and businessmen going to India; 10,000 rupees will be released for patients going to India for treatment. Limited exchange facilities will be provided to government employees and others going on pilgrimage. Indians working in Nepal will be provided exchange facilities on the basis of their income. The new rule will, however, not apply for import of goods from India to Nepal.

Finance Minister on Currencies

*BK1207064489 Hong Kong AFP in English 0608 GMT
12 Jul 89*

[Text] Kathmandu, July 12 (AFP)—Finance Minister Bharat Bahadur Pradhan has defended a plan to end the free convertibility of the Nepalese and Indian currencies, saying the move would staunch the rapid flow of Indian rupees out of the country.

An Indian-imposed trade embargo on Nepal, in effect since the expiration of trade and transit treaties between the two countries on March 23, has cut sharply into Nepalese exports to India and its ability to earn Indian rupees, the finance minister told a press conference Tuesday [11 July].

Nepalese exports to its neighbor, which surrounds three sides of the landlocked Himalayan Kingdom, used to be worth an average of 1.5 billion rupees (54.5 million U.S. dollars) annually. But now, Mr. Pradhan said, "the earning of the Indian currency through Nepalese exports has come to a standstill in the absence of the trade agreement between the two countries."

The finance minister also said that the country's 1989/90 fiscal year budget of 20.24 billion rupees (736 million dollars) would stay the same whether or not an agreement with India for new trade and transit treaties is reached.

"The main objective of the new budget is to control (prices) through proper arrangement of supply of essential goods from internal and external sources," he said during his two-and-a-half-hour press conference.

Mr. Pradhan said that of the total budget, the 1.1 billion rupees (40.5 million dollars) expenditure for national defence is not a large amount.

"This defence allocation was made to spend internally for our national defence purposes," Mr. Pradhan said. "Our defence budget is not like that of the USA and USSR which have to spend a huge sum for defence of (areas) outside their own."

Mr. Pradhan also defended the budget's 9.5 billion rupees (346 million dollar) deficit, equal to almost half of planned expenditure, as not "unusual," adding that even highly-industrialized countries face budget gaps.

Almost 10 billion rupees (365 million dollars) of the 1989/90 budget, which begins July 15, is being met through foreign aid.

"We have estimated the expenditure budget on the basis of the commitment made by Nepal's aid partners," he said.

He said the country would keep a bumper stock of petroleum products for the next four months using five million dollars in financial assistance from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and 27 million dollars from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for tankers to store the oil.

He said the Public Exchequer has provided subsidies for certain goods including petroleum oil and lubricant products so that their market price did not rise. But state-run corporations have been given a free hand to raise prices in order to remain self-reliant.

The finance minister also said the country was in the process of arranging imports from overseas markets to make up for lost imports from India.

Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Comments on SAARC
BK1007124989 Hong Kong AFP in English 1227 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] Kathmandu, July 10 (AFP)—Bangladesh Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud was received Monday [10 July] by his Nepalese counterpart Mr. Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya on his arrival here for a brief.

Mr. Mahmud, who arrived from Colombo via Bangkok, told journalists that he was optimistic about the future of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

He said his current visit to the SAARC capitals was for mutual consultation in a bid to further strengthen the organisation's unity which has come under pressure during the current dispute between members India and Sri Lanka.

He said he held discussions with his Sri Lankan counterpart on the future of SAARC and also on the proposed fifth SAARC summit meeting scheduled for Sri Lanka in November which Colombo has postponed "until the last Indian soldier leaves Sri Lanka".

Asked if Bangladesh would host the summit in Dhaka in view of current stand taken by the Colombo government against the presence of Indian troops in Sri Lanka, Mr. Mahmud said "there is no question of holding the SAARC summit in Dhaka at a time when its (SAARC) council of ministers' meeting could not be held." He was referring to the recent meeting which was cancelled because Colombo refused to attend. He said he was hopeful of finding a solution to the current stalemate of the SAARC.

Asked if he had discussed with Sri Lankan leaders the withdrawal of the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) from Sri Lanka to clear the ground for SAARC summit, Mr. Mahmud said: "I did not discuss any bilateral matter with Sri Lankan Government leaders."

His talks with Mr. Upadhyaya would touch all aspects of Nepal-Bangladesh relations including the trade and economic cooperation, he said.

Mr. Mahmud is scheduled to have an audience with King Birendra later in the afternoon before proceeding to Islamabad in the evening.

Foreign Ministers Hold Talks

BK1107010489 Hong Kong AFP in English 2152 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] Kathmandu, July 11 (AFP)—The foreign ministers of Nepal and Bangladesh held talks here Monday covering bilateral and regional issues, especially trade.

After emerging from the meeting, Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud told reporters that he and his Nepalese counterpart, Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya, had held talks centering on the possibility of increasing cooperation in the area of trade. Mr. Mahmud said that both sides had affirmed their support for furthering the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

Mr. Upadhyaya said that both Bangladesh and Nepal were committed to SAARC and both shared deep feelings for the spirit of regional organisation.

Later, Mr. Mahmud called on Prime Minister Marich Man Singh Shrestha at his office at Singha Durbar Central Secretariat.

Bilateral, regional and international topics were discussed during the meeting, a Foreign Ministry source said.

Mr. Mahmud also had an audience with King Birendra at the Narayanhity Royal Palace. Mr. Upadhyaya also attended.

Mr. Mahmud then left for Islamabad for a brief visit before returning to Dhaka.

Pakistan

Bhutto Interviewed on Afghanistan Policy
PM1107105889 London ITV Television Network in English 1800 GMT 8 Jul 89

[Interview with Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto by Sheena McDonald, monitored in progress in the framework of the Channel 4 "The World This Week" program; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [McDonald] Beyond the borders of Afghanistan, of all the countries involved in the conflict the one most directly affected is Pakistan—home to 3 million Afghan

refugees and the mujahidin interim government. It's no surprise that Afghanistan is at the top of Benazir Bhutto's agenda on her visit to Britain. Earlier this week I spoke to the prime minister in Islamabad, and I asked her what future she wants for Afghanistan.

[Bhutto] Pakistan is committed to a political settlement of the Afghan problem, and we believe that the Afghan interim government, composed of the mujahidin leaders, is the key to a future political government.

[McDonald] You're talking about a negotiated settlement, a negotiated peace settlement in Afghanistan. At the same time Pakistan is still channeling funds to the mujahidin in the civil war. Can you explain how one can maintain both positions?

[Bhutto] We would much prefer a political settlement. We are open to a political settlement, but we are not open to accepting the present administration there in the name of a political settlement. We don't want a military solution, but unless President Najib paves the way for a political settlement by stepping down, it would be very difficult to envisage such a settlement.

[McDonald] President Najib looks secure. He seems to be in control. He seems to be offering the same kind of ideas that you're talking about—negotiated settlements with representatives of the mujahidin. Now, you say the Afghan people in the end should choose their own way. Should they choose General Najib as their ruler, will that satisfy you?

[Bhutto] Whatever the Afghan people decide would satisfy us. However, we don't see how the present administration is either secure—we don't see how they have offered anything new. [sentence as heard] I don't believe that the people of Afghanistan want to continue with the present administration, and I don't believe they will. The commanders have not accepted. The Iran-based mujahidin have not accepted. The Pakistan-based mujahidin have not accepted. King Zahir Shah has not accepted. No prominent emigre has accepted. So it is obvious that the present setup is not acceptable to the vast majority of Afghan public opinion. And it is its continuation which is the biggest stumbling block to a peaceful political settlement.

[McDonald] So far you've rejected direct negotiations with President Najib. Can you envisage any situation where that might change?

[Bhutto] It's not anything to do with Pakistan. It's the Afghan interim government which has refused to negotiate. And having met them, I can say that they would never negotiate with him. They feel bitter, they feel that there are wounded, dead, many losses incurred, and that it would not be at all feasible for them to do so.

[McDonald] You inherited an Afghan policy General Ziaul Haq's vision of an Islamic federalist government in power in Kabul. Now, if the people went for that, would that be acceptable?

[Bhutto] I think that there was some naive idea about how Pakistan could involve itself in the Afghan struggle and impose a regime of its own, and then a confederation. Well, the British didn't succeed, the Russians recently didn't succeed, and it would go in for the same mess as it got the Soviet Union. Therefore, I don't think that that is an idea that has much weight to it. But Afghanistan is our neighbor. We have expended quite a lot of our own resources in keeping so many refugees here. We have the Our port has usually served as an outlet for their resources in does envisage close relations with a free Afghanistan. them, so one

[McDonald] Prime Minister Bhutto speaking bad.

IRNA Cites Pakistani Theologians on Saudi LD1007211689 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 10 Jul 89

audis
5 GMT

[Text] Islamabad, July 10, IRNA—Several Sunni of Pakistan Sunday condemned the Saudi regime's crimes, in ceremonies marking the second anniversary of the pilgrim massacre in Meccah martyrdom

The 'ulema also called for administration of sharifayn (the two holy shrines) by a pious 'ulema representing world Muslims. haramayn is body of

Leading Sunni alim [scholar] Mawlana 'Abd Rabbani stressed that the holy shrines do not belong to a certain group or a person, and none is allowed to monopolize them. Wahid with divine laws and bar Muslims from the shrines. belong to a

Rabbani also lauded the enlightened personality of late Imam Khomeyni who awakened the ummah. fiddle

ality of the Muslim

Leader of Hiszbul Ahnaf of Lahore, Mostafa Razavi said the puppet Saudi regime lacks credentials to administer the holy shrines.

Head of Madina Society of Lahore Mawlana Miyan considered hajj pilgrimage "a politico-religious ritual" and said the Saudis massacred pilgrims to serve the wishes of the foes of Islam. na Rashid o-religious merely to

The Wahhabi regime, he noted, greatly fears the emergence from infidels' rally staged by pilgrims during the hajj.

the 'deliv-
each year

He also condoled the Islamic world on the sad passing away of Imam Khomeyni, and said although it is an irreparable loss, Muslims around the world will continue to tread the path of Imam Khomeyni and struggle against global arrogance and its local agents.

Secretary of the Islamic Scientific Society of Punjab 'Abdul Rahim Zahed condemned the plots against the Islamic revolution of Iran by global arrogance, and paid tribute to the martyred pilgrims.

On July 31, 1987, near the very precincts of the holy Ka'bah where the shedding of even animal's blood is divinely prohibited, the Saudi regime massacred over 400 pilgrims.

President Ishaq Khan Condemns Bombings in Mecca
BK1107154089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1525 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Islamabad, July 11 (AFP)—Pakistan Tuesday [11 July] strongly condemned the bomb explosions which killed one person and injured 16 in the holy Moslem city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

In a message to Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan described Monday's bombings as "not only a crime against humanity but an atrocious sin against Allah Almighty."

He said "the sacrilegious act was a dastardly attempt to sow discord" in the Moslem community and "undermine its strength."

"It was with a sense of extreme grief, deep consternation and utmost concern that I heard the shocking news of bomb explosions in the holy city," the Pakistani president said.

Two explosions late Monday rocked an area near the Grand Mosque in Mecca, Islam's holiest city, leaving one person dead and 16 injured, two of them seriously, according to Saudi officials.

Top Scientist on 'Peaceful' Nuclear Program
BK1207092189 Hong Kong AFP in English 0858 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Islamabad, July 12 (AFP)—Pakistan is capable of building more uranium enrichment facilities, but its nuclear programme is strictly for power generation, the country's chief atomic scientist has said.

In an interview with the defense journal, Abdul Qadir Khan said Pakistan could build many more nuclear facilities like the well-guarded plant at Kahuta 20 kilometres (12 miles) east of here. "We conceived it, we designed it, we built it and we are running it successfully," he was quoted as saying.

He said the nuclear enrichment technology used at the plant was 10 years ahead of India's, adding that only eight countries in the world could enrich uranium with the ultra-centrifuge method used at Kahuta. But the scientist said the enriched uranium produced at the plant was "mainly meant for making fuel for light water reactors."

The sophisticated technology kept the plant "totally self-reliant and safe from political pressure and blackmail," the monthly journal quoted Dr. Qadir Khan as saying.

"I know for sure that Indians had been trying very hard for the last 15 years to master this technology and have not yet succeeded," he said.

India exploded a nuclear device in 1974, and each of the two sub-continent neighbours suspects the other of having programmes to develop nuclear weapons.

Dr. Qadir Khan reiterated Pakistan's denial of charges by some Western countries, India and Israel that the country's nuclear programme was aimed at making weapons.

He said the "myth of a Pakistan bomb" was "all fiction and a creation of the minds of the anti-Pakistani lobby."

"All our efforts in this field are aimed at producing nuclear power," he said. "I have not been asked to do otherwise."

The scientist did acknowledge, however, that his nuclear project was supplying the military with some modern weapons. "We have been supplying the Armed Forces with surface-to-air, anti-aircraft shoulder-fired missiles, special anti-tank ammunition and multi-barrel rocket launchers and helped [develop] laser range-finders," he said.

Dr. Qadir Khan said he was disappointed Pakistan had not developed light-water nuclear reactors.

When Kahuta was first built in the late 1970s, his team had hoped that by the time it started producing enriched uranium Pakistan would have its own light-water reactors to use the fuel. "This unfortunately has remained a dream," he said. "If we had light-water reactors we would be saved from so much insinuation and doubts about our peaceful nuclear programme," he said.

The scientist added that it was technically possible to build light-water reactors in Pakistan.

"Why we don't go ahead? Well we can do only those things which the government asks us to do," he said. "We can't initiate anything on our own."

Expansion of Bilateral Trade With Iraq Planned

BK0407045089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 4 Jul 89

[Text] Pakistan and Iraq have agreed to expand economic and technical cooperation and to increase bilateral trade. This has been noted in documents signed at the sixth session of the Pakistan-Iraq joint ministerial commission in Islamabad yesterday. Both countries agreed to exchange experts in the fields of health, livestock, poultry, and fisheries.

The Iraqi side said Iraq will welcome the participation of Pakistani companies in large-scale work on development and reconstruction projects in Iraq and will "prefer" acquisition of manpower from Pakistan. The Pakistani delegation made a proposal on encouraging joint ventures in which Pakistani-made machinery and technical knowledge are used.

Policy Aimed at Deregulation, Small Industry

BK1107014489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1848 GMT
10 Jul 89

[Text] Karachi, July 10 (AFP)—Pakistan's industrial policy for the next fiscal year foresees deregulatory steps encouraging investment and giving a key role to small-scale industries in creating job opportunities, a business paper reported here Monday.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto would head a board of investment (BOI) that would sanction industrial units costing more than one billion rupees, (47 million dollars), the daily BUSINESS RECORDER said.

The government's approval would be required for setting up production of arms, ammunition and high explosives, as well as for security printing, currency minting, manufacturing beverages based on imported ingredients, and dealing in radioactive substances.

Factories for the manufacture of automobiles, tractors and farm machinery, as well as petroleum-blending plants and ventures involving 50 percent foreign equity would also require government approval, the paper said.

The policy's emphasis on privatisation of investment would seem to suggest an end to the nationalism of industries.

Foreign capital-intensive investment that involved sophisticated technology and would strengthen the country's balance-of-payments position would be encouraged, the report said.

On the list of prohibited foreign private investment were said to be agricultural land, forestry, irrigation, real estate (including land, commercial and office buildings), radioactive minerals, insurance and health.

On the list of desired investment were livestock, seed, dairy and poultry farming, as well as deep-sea, coastal and inland fisheries.

Also acceptable were power generation, along with oil, gas and coal exploration, nuclear energy, tourism development, and transport- and export-related trading and commerce, the report said.

Opposition Leader on Rejoining Commonwealth

BK1007023289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] The leader of the Jamiat-i Islami, Qazi Hussain Ahmad, has said that Parliament should decide on the question of Pakistan's readmission to the Commonwealth and the elected representatives of the people should be taken into confidence. He told a news conference in Lahore that democratic institutions should not be ignored while deciding on important national issues.

Delhi 'Turnabout' on Siachen Issue Criticized

BK0507111189 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
21 Jun 89 pp 1, 6

[By Ghani Jafar]

[Text] Islamabad, June 20—The outcome of the latest round of high-level parleys between India and Pakistan culminating in in-depth discussions in Islamabad between the Foreign Secretaries of the two sides, was widely hailed as a major breakthrough in bilateral relations with the announcement of an agreement on the Siachen issue. The agreement was announced at a Press conference addressed jointly by the Pakistan Foreign Secretary, Dr. Humayun Khan, and his Indian counterpart, Mr. S.K. Singh, at Islamabad Airport before the latter's return home on Sunday (June 18) afternoon.

The high-point of the understanding reached on the politically and militarily volatile issue of Siachen was that both sides would withdraw their troops to the positions held by them at the time of signing of the Simla Agreement in 1972. Siachen Glacier, lying in the midst of the strategically vital part of northern South Asia where 'three great empires' (almost) meet, has remained a constant flashpoint ever since Indian troops occupied a part of Pakistan territory there in 1984. The latest reported incident of armed clashes on the world's highest battleground occurred as recently as early last month.

For a change, however, the hostilities last May appeared to have led the two sides to finally accept the necessity of evolving a political settlement to the issue. Apart from forming a major obstacle to improvement of bilateral relations, Siachen dispute has been exacting a heavy price in men and material, particularly of India whose logistics channel to try consolidating the aggression has been far more difficult and expensive to operate.

The month preceding Mr. S.K. Singh's arrival in Islamabad, therefore, saw a flurry of quiet diplomacy to hammer out a mutually agreeable solution. Pakistan has consistently taken the principled position of India's vacating the aggression unconditionally, and for the final settlement to be worked out in accordance with the spirit of the Simla agreement to which Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has lent unrelenting support. Indian leadership too welcomed Pakistan's unequivocal commitment to the Simla agreement after the coming into power of the new democratic government at Islamabad last December.

Against this backdrop, highly significant as last Sunday's announcement of agreement on Siachen was, it was taken as a natural outcome of a new political will of the two sides to make a sincere effort at reducing mutual tension. But the hope proved much too short-lived, even by South Asian standards.

Apparently, powers higher than the Indian foreign secretary had taken a different view. Even as the official All India Radio (AIR) broadcast a commentary welcoming the Islamabad accord, the Press was called to South Block to be informed by the (equally official, if not more) spokesman that the reports of India and Pakistan having agreed to call back their forces to the 1972 position were incorrect.

New Delhi's fickleness would not ordinarily surprise its neighbours. But this latest act of quick-change artistry is by all means a classic. It would be in order to recall some of the relevant details of the Islamabad airport announcement from which Indian Government has for some reason chosen to resile.

The two foreign secretaries sat together in the VIP lounge. While briefing newsmen on the series of bilateral talks capped by Dr. Humayun Khan's own discussions with Mr. Singh, the Pakistan foreign secretary recounted the progress achieved in a number of areas. He referred to the entire range of meetings held in Pakistan ahead of the foreign secretaries' talks, including those between secretaries for water and power, interior and defence.

With reference to the Siachen issue, he stated unequivocally that the two sides had agreed to take their forces back to the positions held by them at the time of Simla agreement's execution. After his statement, Mr. S.K. Singh was asked for his comments, and he said equally unequivocally that he endorsed all that had been stated by the Pakistan foreign secretary.

Let us not rely on independent Pakistan media, let us not even refer to its reports which all stated the above facts. Let us turn to India itself. This is how the AIR reported the agreement the next morning, that is, well after Mr. Singh had reached New Delhi: "India and Pakistan have decided to redeploy their forces to pre-1972 positions in Siachen as they were at the time of signing the Simla agreement by the two sides".

BBC's correspondent filed the following from Islamabad: "The foreign secretary, Mr. S.K. Singh from India and Mr. Humayun Khan from Pakistan had been meeting for two days and their discussions set the seal on the earlier meetings between the defence secretaries of the two countries, when the Siachen Glacier confrontation was the main item on the agenda. At a joint news conference Mr. Khan announced that both sides have now decided to withdraw to the positions that they held at the time of Simla accord.

"Mr. Humayun Khan said that the present agreement was of great significance in removing a potential source of conflict. But there was still one problem to overcome, and that was to agree exactly where the pre-1972 positions of the two sides were. He said that senior army officers from both countries would now meet to identify them".

The same day, Monday, June 19, Voice of Germany reported: "The two countries have expressed their determination to redeploy their troops at the positions where they were in 1972 at the time of the signing of Simla accord. The military officials of India and Pakistan will decide the details about the new positions of deployment of troops".

Turning back to India, the commentary broadcast in the evening transmission of AIR's Urdu Service said: "Indian dailies have splashed the significantly important report on their front pages, that India and Pakistan have decided to call a halt to their five-year-old confrontation in the Siachen Glacier area, and have decided to call back their forces to the positions of 1972".

All that should be proof enough of the authenticity of the plain fact that both Dr. Humayun Khan and Mr. S.K. Singh had declared in the afternoon of June 18 that Pakistan and India had agreed to take their forces back to the 1972 position. It should be equally evident that the core issue of possession rights and their territorial limits in the area had been deferred.

But, under some compulsion, New Delhi decided to go back on the long-evasive beginning made towards normalization of its relations with Pakistan. The conduct of India's foreign policy is without a doubt the prerogative of the government of that country. But it is not easy to condone the brazenness with which it has affected the turnabout. In the process, it has not only made a mockery of the way New Delhi handles most sensitive security issues with its neighbours, but also of its highest foreign ministry official. To quote from the Indian official spokesman's briefing of June 19 "(Mr. S.K. Singh) did not react to the statement made by the Pakistan foreign secretary at the Press conference."

While it is too early to grasp New Delhi's logic in putting a spanner in the normalization process, one aspect is clear: Many things may change—including the change from dictatorial to fully democratic government in Pakistan—but not so the ways of New Delhi.

Weapons Discovered at Sind Medical College
BK0607154089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 5 Jul 89

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate of Karachi-South says police searched the hostels of Sind Medical College early this morning, during which they recovered 4 rifles, including 2 Kalashnikov rifles; 15 pistols and revolvers; 650 cartridges; 2 [word indistinct] sets; and 2 knives. A few persons have been arrested, and an investigation has been launched.

Troops Seize Arms, Drugs in Afghan Refugee Camp
BK0507004489 Hong Kong FP in English 1813 GMT
5 Jul 89

[Text] Quetta, Pakistan, July 4 (AFP)—Pakistani troops seized a huge quantity of arms, ammunition and drugs when they raided an Afghan refugee camp in Dalbandin, official sources said Tuesday [4 July].

Some 100 troops in armoured vehicles took part in the raid Monday on Girdi Jung Refugee Camp some 250 miles south-west of here, the officials said.

They recovered anti-aircraft guns, AK-47 assault rifles, mortar shells, submachine gun magazines, 150 kilograms (330 pounds) of opium, and some hashish and heroin, the sources said.

The authorities did not say if any arrests were made.

The raid was arranged on information from the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board, the sources added.

12 Heroin Factories Destroyed Since Dec 1988
BK0107154389 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Excerpt] The National Assembly was informed during question hour this afternoon that law enforcement agencies destroyed 12 heroin processing factories since December last year. Aitzaz Ahsan, the minister for interior and narcotics control, told the house that the North-West Frontier Province government has succeeded in persuading poppy cultivators to end poppy cultivation on 2,700 acres in the (Turbel) and (Qadim Aghazai) areas of Bajaur and Mohmand Agencies during the current poppy season. [passage omitted]